

# THE TIMES

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## Nervous markets stage recovery

World financial markets calmed down yesterday. In London, the FT index of 30 leading shares closed 1.5 up at 827.9 and Wall Street was also clawing back some ground. Foreign exchange markets were quiet but nervous ahead of the long weekend.

The pound closed up 35 points at \$1.3850 against the dollar but down 0.1 at 79.4 against a basket of currencies.

There is concern that British banks may soon have to raise their base rates again. But they will wait to see how markets react next week before reaching any decision.

William Kay, page 21  
Market report, page 22

## Chinese troops for Hongkong

Mr Deng Xiaoping said that China will station troops in Hongkong when it regains sovereignty over the colony from Britain in 1997. Page 4

## Managua yields

The Nicaraguan Government has agreed to opposition demands to extend the election campaign from two months to three. In El Salvador two army hardliners have been dismissed. Page 5

## Poly ruling

A High Court judge ruled that 14 polytechnic lecturers must obey an order to identify 18 students photographed at an unlawful picket. Page 2

## Officer quits

The officer who referred 15 coloured people as "nig-nogs" has resigned from the police. Back page.

## EEC zeal

Sir Geoffrey Howe said in Paris yesterday that the EEC had Britain's whole-hearted commitment. He called the idea of a two-speed Europe absurd. Page 5

## Russian silence

Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade, expressed British concern about the fate of Dr Andrei Sakharov during Moscow talks but was given no assurances. Page 5

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## Clerical clash

Mr Clive Jenkins, the union leader, is being taken to court by another union for stopping the salaries of his administrative staff who are on strike. Page 2

## Belfast blast

Two bombs exploded in the centre of Belfast last night after a warning that a number had been planted in the city centre. One exploded in a clothes store and another in a restaurant.

## Solti withdraws

Sir Georg Solti withdrew from conducting the second year of Sir Peter Hall's production of Wagner's *Ring* at Bayreuth for medical reasons. Page 5

## Cairo clashes

Egypt's most open election campaign ended in violence when seven police were injured in Cairo clashes. Polling is tomorrow. Page 4

## Clark leads

A score of 64 gave Howard Clark a first round lead in the PGA golf championship at Wentworth. Page 27.

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Leading articles: International debt; Parliamentary session; Bishop of Durham  
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Dr Theodore Dunham, Dr Peter Borrie

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## Notts miners win right-to-work orders from court

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Nottinghamshire miners won "right-to-work" orders from the High Court yesterday, confirming that they cannot be instructed by their union to strike or to refuse to cross picket lines.

The judgment came as it emerged that the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers had agreed to make another attempt next week to break the deadlock in the 11-week-old strike with a fresh round of talks on neutral territory.

Neither the board nor the union would say where and when the talks would be held, or whether Mr Arthur Scargill, NUM president, would lead the union team. It is clear that Mr Ian MacGregor, the coal board chairman, will not attend, but it is expected that Mr Scargill will be present.

The High Court ruling, delivered by the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Megarry, came at the end of a four-day hearing of an action by 640 Nottinghamshire miners against their local leadership, the NUM executive, and Mr Scargill. The orders prevent union leaders from instructing reluctant Nottinghamshire miners to join the strike and also from threatening

One effect of the orders predicted by the rebel miners' legal advisers last night was that

BSC bill, page 2

## Time limit idea for court cases

By Frances Gibb  
Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Government is considering introducing a time limit within which defendants must be brought to trial, the Home Secretary announced yesterday. "I am well aware this is a highly controversial area," Mr Leon Brittan, QC, told the Justices' Clerks Society annual conference in Blackpool. "But the system in Scotland, where the accused goes free if it is not brought to trial within the statutory 110-day period seems to work well."

Mr Brittan accepted the force of arguments against time limits and also that successive governments had been against the idea. But he saw great benefits if they could be made to work.

"What they create, and what our system tends to lack, is the expectation that cases will be dealt with within a particular period. They act against the attitude that 'a case takes as long as it takes'."

Without some kind of standard it was easy for all concerned to let matters drift on, Mr Brittan said. Often no one involved in bringing a case to trial had any personal compunction to ensure it was dealt with quickly.

He said there had been a notable increase in waiting time in magistrate's courts in the past five years. For defendants remanded in custody the average time from first remand to summary trial or sentence rose from 18 to 22 days and from 27 to 37 days from first remand to committal for crown court trial.

The longer the wait for a hearing in a contested case, the more the memories of witnesses fade, the less the likelihood that the truth will emerge and the less the impact of any sentence on the offender or on the public", Mr Brittan said.

There was also the waste of time and money and strain on the defendant, particularly if remained in custody.

The announcement preempts a report by the home affairs committee of MPs, which has just completed a study of remands expected to support a statutory time limit.

The Home Office is also considering a Justices' Clerks Society proposal for non-statutory guidelines on how long each stage in a case's progress should take, and is carrying out a survey on waiting times in magistrates' courts. It would be issuing a circular soon to help to reduce delays.

## Storm over timing of farm aid speech

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Government's announcement yesterday that it would provide up to £50m over five years to help dairy farmers threatened by EEC production quotas was greeted with astonishment at its timing and the circumstances in which it was made.

He said: "The Government is not facing up realistically to the problems faced by dairy farmers and the livestock industry generally."

"Although there are some positive aspects to this scheme, it lacks balance and does not face up to the real difficulties caused by the sudden imposition of milk quotas."

Farmers' grievances are illustrated in a letter sent to Mrs Margaret Thatcher by Mr Alan Fry, of Wareham, Dorset, pointing out that in the last two years, with ministry encouragement, he has invested £170,000 with a further £80,000 in government grants in a new dairy complex and in doubling his herd from 100 to 200 cows.

He has now been told that his quota will be 2,275 litres a day, compared with his present output of 5,000 litres. He estimates his income will fall by nearly two thirds.

## Ceausescu 'summoned to Moscow over Games'

From Richard Owen, Moscow

An angry Soviet leadership is reported to have summoned President Ceausescu of Romania to Moscow for talks on Romania's refusal to join the Olympic boycott and other issues, according to East European sources here.

Mr Ceausescu, who has irritated the Kremlin for years by adopting an independent foreign policy line, was said to be due to arrive in Moscow on June 4, eight days before a

President Ceausescu: Irritated the Kremlin

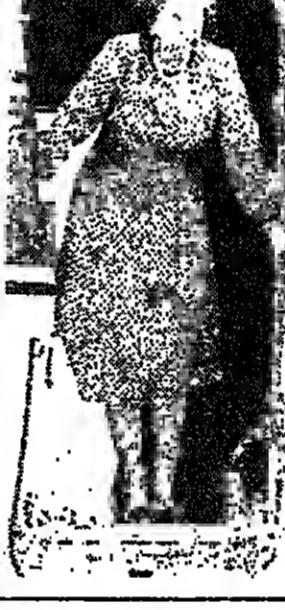
Between 3,000 and 10,000 are abducted by strangers. Most missing children are found, or return home voluntarily - but a sickening 20,000 to 50,000 are still missing at the end of each year.

The increase in the numbers who go missing each year has spawned a host of groups - some voluntary or professional, others profit-seeking - to help locate them and return them to their homes.

Mos is a bona fide organization which has helped in the safe recovery of children, but some have come under investigation after being accused of charging extortionate fees to



Weather-wary: Princess Anne well waterproofed for the Windsor Horse Trials at Windsor Great Park yesterday (Photograph: Suresh Karadia). The Queen meanwhile arrived home, but what was she looking for? Answer, page 2.



## Iraq claims attacks on six more ships

From Robert Fisk, Bahrain

With Iran, reportedly massing up to a quarter of a million men for a Ramadan offensive against the southern Iraqi city of Basra, the Arab states of the southern Gulf watched helplessly yesterday as the Iraqis again claimed to have attacked an Iranian-escorted convoy, this time damaging six ships off the port of Bandar Khomeini.

Whether or not such an attack actually took place - and the Gulf states suspect that many of the Iraqi statements are deliberately designed to influence political events rather than reflect reality - the Iraqi claim was made only hours before the United Nations Security Council was due to debate Iranian attacks on Gulf shipping.

The fact that the Arab states have objected openly to Iranian air attacks on Arab shipping and not to Iraqi attacks in Iran's territorial waters, including ships belonging to the Arab states, proves how committed the nations of the Gulf Cooperation Council still are to President Saddam Hussein's regime in Baghdad. Yet their impotence in the face of both sides in the war is only too evident.

Despite optimistic reports

## Teachers to step up strike action

By Staff Reporters

Strike action by teachers is to be increased after the half-term holiday, with the 235,000-strong National Union of Teachers (NUT) calling out 5,250 members on a three-day stoppage from Tuesday week.

The union, which has said it will call three-day strikes over its pay claim each week for as long as it thinks necessary, expects 100,000 pupils to be affected in its next round of action.

Some 270 schools in 50 of the 104 local education authorities will be hit, an increase on numbers involved this week when 4,000 striking NUT members forced most of their 224 schools to close causing 70,000 pupils to be sent home each day.

At the same time, the 120,000-strong National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers (NAS/UWT) will step up its half-day selective strikes. It plans to call out members in four more authorities each week.

The unions, having rejected a 4.5 per cent offer, are pressing for the dispute to be put to arbitration. But yesterday Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, again rejected this option. Arbitrators could not "conjure up" more money for teachers, said Sir Keith, who described the current offer as "fair and reasonable".

Mr Douglas McAvoy, acting NUT general secretary, said strike action would continue to include authorities in membership of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which favours arbitration.

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Quality in taste - THE FAMOUS GROUSE

Inside



Test tubes, the law and morality

A call to prevent experiments on human embryos

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The end of a sporting era

Preview of Scotland v England - the end of the British championship: Page 28

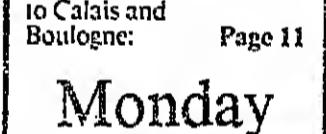


How green is the city?

The growth industry of urban farming: Page 9

Cross-Channel food manoeuvres

Robin Young's eating guide to Calais and Boulogne: Page 11

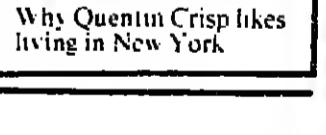


Hunting for treasure

Britain's missing millions

Impeccable manners

Why Quentin Crisp likes living in New York







# China will station troops in Hongkong after it regains sovereignty

From David Bonavia, Peking

Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's elder statesman, yesterday publicly criticized two senior members of his governing elite for having said China would not send troops to Hongkong when sovereignty over the territory is transferred from Britain in 1997.

Mr Deng, who was talking to Hongkong-based Chinese reporters, said that Mr Geng Biao and Mr Huang Hua were "talking nonsense" when they said that at discussion groups about a week ago.

Mr Geng is a former Minister of Defence and Mr Huang is a former Minister of Foreign Affairs.

It is rare for Chinese leaders to criticize their colleagues by name in public, and there is speculation whether some new split in the leadership is indicated.

Senior military commanders are known to have been unhappy with many of Mr Deng's liberalizing policies since the death of Chairman Mao Tse-tung in 1976. They may well have objected to the "soft line" over Hongkong taken by Mr Geng and Mr Huang, both of whom are

Hongkong were held about a week ago, and visiting reporters from the Honkong Chinese-language media picked them up.

Semi-official sources here confirmed that Mr Deng had dismissed his colleagues remarks as "rubbish", although the Foreign Ministry refused to comment.

The reports of conflicting views among Chinese leaders on the topic have caused anxiety and financial instability in Hongkong, which China is anxious to avoid.

The talks on Hongkong will resume here next week, with the British delegation headed by Sir Richard Evans, the Ambassador.

• HONGKONG: Mr Deng's statement was greeted here with surprise and caution (AP report).

Sir Sze-Yuen Chung, a senior non-government member of Hongkong's Legislative Council, said China had every right to station troops after it regains sovereignty.

But he said Peking should consider the reaction of Hongkong people to the presence of Chinese soldiers and questioned whether the move was "necessary or wise".

## Leftist says Alfonsin will not yield on Falklands

From Douglas Tweedale  
Buenos Aires

Argentina will not sign a formal cease-of-hostilities agreement with Britain, a left-wing politician who met President Alfonsin as part of a round of political talks has said here.

Señor Jorge Abuelo Ramos, leader of the fringe-left Popular Left Front, said he had urged President Alfonsin to "continue the demand for the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands" by all peaceful means, and that he received in return an assurance that Argentina would not sign an agreement formally putting an end to the 1982 war over the islands.

Señor Ramos also said that President Alfonsin promised him that Argentina would not sign nuclear non-proliferation treaties aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons.

The Government has not commented on Mr Ramos's account of the meeting, nor given its own version of events. President Alfonsin is holding meetings with leaders of all opposition parties in an effort to find backing for his policies.

Señor Ramos is an historian known here for his nationalism and dramatic political claims. His party, which received less than 1 per cent of the vote in national elections last October, advocates the non-payment of Argentina's foreign debt. It favoured a military build-up immediately after the Falklands War, and urged the present Government to build a nuclear submarine "as a marvellous weapon to defend our sovereignty in the South Atlantic".

President Alfonsin's talks with opposition leaders began last Monday

## Egyptian campaign ends in violence

From Christopher Walker  
Cairo

The most open election campaign in the chequered, 60-year history of the Egyptian Parliament has ended with violence on the streets of an overpopulated Cairo suburb, and a concerted smear campaign in the state-controlled press against the main opposition party, the New Wafd, which includes a number of Muslim fundamentalists.

The outcome of tomorrow's poll is being keenly awaited by Western governments, which see it as the first test of public opinion since President Mubarak took power in 1981 after the murder of President Sadat. Foreign diplomats will be paying close attention to the Government's promise that there will be no vote rigging.

Officials disclosed yesterday that seven policemen were injured, one seriously, and 23 Wafd supporters, including a former member of the National Assembly, were arrested after clashes in the early hours of Thursday, when a mob of 250 went on the rampage after a rally in the poor Sayeda Zeinab quarter.

I was one of the few reporters who had earlier attended the Wafd rally, at which voters expressed outspoken criticism of the inertia of the ruling National Democratic Party, which is led by President Mubarak. Because of ballot-fixing by his predecessor in 1979 the party holds more than 90 per cent of the parliamentary seats.

The riot did not begin until 1.00am when the crowd began to attack police with stones and shout anti-government slogans. Al Ahram, the Cairo daily newspaper, reported that the former deputy, Mr Olwi Hafez, was defiant during seven hours of questioning, telling the police at one point: "I will not stop until I have turned this into a civil war."

It was the second clash between the security forces and supporters of the Wafd, which is an uneasy alliance between conservatives, including Coptic Christians, and backers of the illegal Muslim Brotherhood who want to see full Islamic law brought into Egypt.

In Alexandria, Egypt's second largest city, police with batons broke up a Wafd rally last week just before its elderly leader, the former Interior Minister, Mr Fuad Seragedin, was due to

President Mubarak: Inertia of party attacked.



President Mubarak: Inertia of party attacked.

Outcry  
Algiers  
hospital  
standards

## Managua bows to demand from opposition for extended poll campaign

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

The Sandinista Government in Nicaragua has accepted demands from the opposition to extend the campaign period leading up to elections on November 4.

The Supreme Electoral Council, appointed by the Government to supervise the elections, agreed to a campaign lasting three months instead of the two months it originally proposed.

But its president, Señor Mariano Fiallos, said that a two-year-old state of emergency severely restricting political activity was unlikely to be lifted at an early date because of the increasingly intense war against US-backed rebels.

Parties have from now until July 25 to register their candidates for President, Vice-President and a 90-seat National Assembly. Voters will be registered during four days from July 27 and the campaign will begin on August 8. It closes on October 31, four days before polling.

Opposition groups argued that two months were not long enough to put their views across to voters after nearly five years of virtually one-party politics -

## Hard-line Salvadorean officers are dismissed

From Juan Carlin, San Salvador

The Salvadorean Army high command has announced the dismissal of two high-ranking officers, both politically-committed right-wingers, and both implicated in human rights abuses for many years.

Colonel Nicolás Carranza has been removed as head of the Treasury Police, the most feared of El Salvador's internal security organization.

With Colonel Carranza goes Lieutenant-Colonel Mario Denis Morán, whom American officials have always suspected of being behind the murder of two US American labour advisers in January, 1981. Colonel Morán, a shrewd, ice-cold man, apparently sealed his fate when, against the orders of the high command, he set about a campaign of political intimidation before the recent presidential elections.

But Colonel Carranza is the more important figure of the two. At 51, he has been something of a godfather figure in the Salvadorean Army. He is respected and feared, even by his fellow officers.

He has made little attempt in recent years to hide his sympathies for Major Roberto D'Aubuisson's extreme right-wing party, the Nationalist Republican Alliance. Investigations in the past six months have yielded a great deal of

evidence that it is not Major D'Aubuisson but Colonel Carranza who is the real mastermind behind El Salvador's notorious death squads.

Colonel Carranza is an urbane, intelligent, an excellent speaker of English. The only time this correspondent met him was at a French restaurant in San Salvador. "Hello, pleased to meet you. My name's Nicky Carranza of the co-operative Treasury Police", he said, an ironic twinkle in his eye.

The Army has sent him into the classic Latin American "diplomatic exile" as military attaché in El Salvador's West German Embassy in Bonn. He ought to know how to thrive socially in a European setting better than most Salvadorean Army officers.

Nevertheless, Colonel Carranza flew into a rage, apparently, banging his fist on the table when the armed forces Chief of Staff, Colonel Adolfo Blandón, told him that he was to clear his desk at the Treasury Police building. Colonel Morán is apparently bound for a defence college just outside Washington.

The two are among the most high-profile of the Salvadorean Army's "more" notorious elements.

## Solti quits 'Ring' production

By David Hewson  
Arts Correspondent

The conductor, Sir Georg Solti, surprised the opera world yesterday by withdrawing from the second year of Sir Peter Hall's production of Wagner's *Ring* at Bayreuth.

Sir Peter's first-year cycle, on the centenary of Wagner's death, was greeted by boos and cheers at its opening last summer, although Sir Georg received a better recognition after an uneasy start.

"It has become clear that Sir Georg Solti is unable to continue his most demanding workload without an extended summer break," the statement said. "This had been confirmed by medical advice. For this reason, he has asked Herr Wolfgang, the composer's grandson and festival director, to release him from the planned engagement as conductor of the *Ring* cycle at the Bayreuth Festival. Sir Georg greatly regrets having to make this decision."

Sir Peter, who was in final rehearsals for his production of *Fafner*, which opens the Glyndebourne Festival on Monday, declined to comment on the announcement, which deprives the Bayreuth production of its most acclaimed performer.

Sir Georg's place will be



Sir Georg: Crucial to the cycle's success

taken by the young general music director of Bremen, Peter Schneider, who was to have conducted *The Flying Dutchman* at Bayreuth this summer. The festival has yet to announce what will happen next year, which was due to be the last in the three-year cycle of productions involving Sir Peter and Sir Georg.

Yesterday's edition of the leading German newspaper, *Suddeutsche Zeitung*, described the news as almost a catastrophe for the festival organizers (Michael Binyon writes).

"This is terrible news for

... Bayreuth, for the energy of

the youthful and fresh 70-year-

old conductor in 1983 was what saved the ... event which had caused such controversy with the production by Peter Hall and the half-romanticized and half-fascistized-technocratic decor of William Dudley," the paper's theatre and music critic, Joachim Kaiser, wrote.

"That Solti, the main figure

in the *Ring* production which was accompanied by many a fault in the singing and false starts, should now pull out of the three-man leadership with the help of a doctor's certificate, is for Wolfgang Wagner, who in 1983 made far too great a claim on the critical public,

almost a catastrophe."

## Channon draws a blank on Sakharovs

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade, expressed British concern over the fate of Dr Andrei Sakharov during talks in Moscow this week, but was given no assurances that Dr Sakharov and his wife were alive and well.

Mr Channon, who began talks on Monday, said yesterday that he had raised the Sakharov case with Mr Nikolai Patolichiev, the Soviet Trade Minister. Mr Patolichiev had replied that the case was purely a matter for the Soviet authorities.

Dr Sakharov, Russia's best known dissident, went on

against the background of a large British trade deficit with the Soviet Union, said the Russians had promised to restore direct dialling between London and Moscow to help British business. Soviet officials told him that direct dialling, introduced for the Moscow Olympic Games in 1980, had proved inadequate for commercial use and had been withdrawn for technical improvements.

Mr Channon said the fact that the Soviet side in the annual Anglo-Soviet Joint Commission had been chaired

for the first time by Mr Patolichiev himself was an encouraging sign. The Soviet delegation was formerly led by Mr Yuri Breschnev, Deputy minister and son of the late President.

Western help in modernising undated Soviet industrial plant appeared to be a priority. Mr Channon visited Kiev as well as Moscow.

Britain is only seventh in the league of Russia's western trading partners, last year Britain had a trading deficit of £475m.

## Bonn bounces back to denounce unions and defend amnesty

### 300,000 may be laid off by strikes

From Michael Boyton  
Bonn

No breakthrough was in sight yesterday after many hours of negotiation between union leaders and employers, as the engineering strike continued to spread.

On the second day of talks in Stuttgart between IG Metall, the metalworkers' union, representing 2.5 million members, and Gesamtmetall, the employers' federation, the atmosphere remained tense. There were few signs of compromise on either side on the question of a shorter working week.

The total of about 250,000 people made idle by the strikes is expected to swell to 300,000 next week, if the employers carry out their threat to enforce

lockouts in the Frankfurt area as well.

There were sharp exchanges between the Government and opposition in Parliament yesterday over the decision by the Federal Labour Office not to grant unemployment benefit to car workers who had been laid off. The trade union federations said yesterday it would back IG Metall's challenge in court to

the weekend in an attempt to settle West Germany's worst bout of industrial trouble since 1978. On Monday, a huge demonstration by metalworkers is planned to Bonn, and some members of the Social Democratic Party, who have encouraged the union to hold out for a 35-hour week, are expected to speak at the rally. The strike will be two weeks old tomorrow.

The Government is also troubled by the continuing political row over its abortive plan to grant an amnesty to about 3,000 businessmen and politicians accused of evading taxes on political donations.

During a heated debate in Parliament yesterday, Herr Hans-Joachim Vogel, the Social Democratic parliamentary leader, accused Chancellor

Kohl of trying to abrogate the principle of equality before the law.

Government speakers accused the opposition of hypocrisy and Herr Kohl insisted he would not allow an ordinary citizen who had contributed to his party's funds with a clear conscience to be sent to prison for it.

The Government was forced to withdraw its proposal two weeks ago when the Free Democrats refused to support the amnesty. Several speakers on the government side expressed doubts about the plan during the debate, but the Government won a comfortable majority of 46 for its motion that donations to political parties were neither forbidden nor morally questionable.

## EEC herring share-out disputed by Norway

Oslo (Reuter) - A European Community decision to share out 155,000 tonnes of herring could put an end to cooperation over fishing in the North Sea between Community countries and Norway. Mr Thor Listhaug, Norwegian Minister of Fisheries said.

The decision taken by Community ministers late on Thursday had violated agreements on the administration of fish resources in the North Sea, he told Reuters. The quotas had been fixed despite the failure of talks with Norway on how to split a total of 230,000 tonnes for the whole year.

Norway strongly protested against the unilateral decision and is to ask for negotiations to reopen.

## Crocker sees Pik Botha

Johannesburg - Dr Chester Crocker, President Reagan's Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, held talks here yesterday with Mr Pik Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, and then travelled to Lusaka, the Zambian capital, to meet President Kaunda. (Micrael Hornsby writes.)

His visit shrouded in secrecy, has aroused speculation of some new move on Namibia before the trip to Europe of Mr P W Botha, the Prime Minister.

## Emigré 'sent Russia parts'

New York (Reuter) - A Soviet Jewish emigre, Yuri Geifman, was indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of attempting to export high-technology computer parts to the Soviet Union via a company in West Germany.

Geifman, aged 31, also known as "U. S. E.", was arrested last week. According to a customs official he emigrated from the Soviet Union a decade ago and now has Israeli and Canadian citizenship.

## Sun flare-up

Cape Canaveral (AP) - Solar Max, the US satellite retrieved and repaired by space shuttle astronauts on April 11, has recorded one of the six largest flare eruptions ever seen on the Sun. Space Agency scientists reported. Checks on the satellite are being delayed so it can go on recording.

## Museum duped

Fort Worth, Texas (Reuter) - The Kimbell Art Museum of Fort Worth has learned that one of its most popular exhibits, a twelfth century French Romanesque church apse, purchased for \$300,000 in 1971, is a fake. Tests showed the frescoes on it were painted about 50 years ago.

## Liberian held

Boston (AP) - Charles Taylor, aged 36, former director-general of Liberia's General Services Agency, was arrested here accused of transferring nearly \$1m in Liberian Government funds to a personal bank account in New York.

## China non-stop

Canberra (AP) - Australia and China will begin direct flights between the two countries starting in September to help strengthen economic and cultural ties. Travellers presently go through Hongkong.

## Idaho win keeps Hart hopes alive

From Nicholas Ashton  
Washington

Senator Gary Hart kept alive his winning streak by scoring an unexpectedly large victory in the delegate-selection caucuses held in Idaho on Thursday night.

His success was virtually a repeat performance of his victory in the state's non-binding presidential "beauty contest" on Tuesday, when he easily defeated his two rivals for the Democratic nomination. Mr Walter Mondale and the Rev Jesse Jackson.

There had been widespread speculation that Mr Mondale would win the caucuses, but Mr Hart defeated him as easily as he had two days earlier. Mr Hart won almost 58 per cent of the delegates who will attend the state convention next month, compared with 34 per cent for Mr Mondale and 2 per cent for Mr Jackson.

The first results published on the post-mortem examination merely said that there were no traces of physical violence and that Mr Radovic had died from an overdose of sleeping pills.

According to information just published, some 820 people were investigated by police last year for alleged political offences. A quarter of these were ethnic Albanians from Kosovo where there were riots in 1981.

More recently, police say they have uncovered several groups allegedly preparing for acts of terrorism and smuggling arms and explosives into Kosovo region. Six ethnic Albanians were sentenced in Belgrade on Thursday to jail terms of from four to 13 years.

## Japan's military exercise angers the Russians

The Soviet Union yesterday told Japan that a planned military exercise this weekend involving British and other western warships was "provocative".

In a statement to the Japanese embassy in Moscow the Soviet Foreign Ministry strongly condemned against the planned celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Admiral Heihachiro Togo, who defeated Russian naval forces at Port Arthur in 1904. The defeat was a national trauma and it is still bitterly remembered by the Soviet regime even though it was suffered by Russian imperial forces.

The Soviet statement said it would be "profoundly unfriendly" to hold celebrations marking "the great victory of the Japanese fleet in the war with Russia" by holding a naval parade at Kagoshima today and tomorrow.

Moscow objected strongly to the participation not only of Japanese ships and aircraft but

also of two British patrol vessels, two warships from the United States Seventh Fleet and a French destroyer.

The Soviet press had attacked the celebrations as "militaristic and revisionist". The Soviet statement suggested that Moscow intends to go further and turn the incident into a serious diplomatic row.

Moscow dismissed Tokyo's argument that the celebrations were organized "certain quarters", including the Japanese government, were generating chauvinist sentiments and deliberately cultivating enmity towards Russia, the Soviet Union and its people.

The statement said that the Soviet leadership regarded the celebrations as "hostile to a friendly neighbouring state". The Soviet Union would draw "relevant conclusions".

Diplomats noted that the statement was coloured by Russian nationalist feeling. It is one of a series of hardline foreign policy statements made by the Kremlin.

The permit is necessary because Mr Kitson, who was jailed for 20 years in December 1964, on charges of sabotage was South African and British nationality. He was told yesterday to collect it on Monday. He was also told he could keep his South African citizenship.

Remission of sentence for political or security crimes became possible only about two years ago. Had it been available earlier, Mr Kitson could have hoped, with good behaviour, to have his sentence cut by up to a quarter instead of merely seven months.

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mr David Kitson, the member of the high command of the banned African National Congress who was released on May 1 after more than 19 years in Pretoria Central prison, has been granted a permit by the Department of Internal Affairs, enabling him to leave South Africa.

The permit is necessary because Mr Kitson, who was jailed for 20 years in December 1964, on charges of sabotage was South African and British nationality. He was told yesterday to collect it on Monday. He was also told he could keep his South African citizenship.

**'Intuitively we do not equate a fertilized human egg with a hamster or a piece of mouse tissue'**

# Let the law take on the test-tube

by Ian Kennedy

You cannot put genies back into bottles. You can, however, try to make sure that the genie does not go around granting any old wish. You can give the genie some rules.

*In vitro* fertilization, as a method of dealing with infertility, is probably with us to stay. But we are still just about able to ask whether the possibilities created by IVF should become practice. I say just about because theory is rapidly becoming reality, and reality has the habit of becoming practice.

For some time such debate as there was about where it was all leading us was of the simplest kind. Medical scientists were harbingers of a Brave New World. Cautious commentators were Luddites. Researchers invoked "the right to know". Critics invoked the Third Reich. In the middle was the general response of "Gee whiz", coupled with centre-page photographs of mother and child (or, more recently, children). Reports from a number of working parties have raised the level of debate, but not surprisingly, have shown considerable disagreement. The Warnock report will undoubtedly be no exception.

In effect, then, the debate is just beginning. And we ought not to be hustled into making hasty decisions by the doctor or researcher anxious to get on with things. Helping the childless or adding to our understanding of immunology are noble aims. But they have no claim to paramountcy among our aims if we find the moral price of pursuing them too high.

Two issues stand out as particularly taxing: the use of a woman's womb to bring to term the fertilized egg of a couple, and the use of embryos for research. On womb-leasing (sometimes called surrogate motherhood), there are two main points. First, the fundamental moral question must be whether the procedure could harm the interests of the future child, rather than whether it satisfies the wishes of the couple to have a family, or whether the woman voluntarily and knowingly agrees to it.

Second, it must not be thought that the procedure, if permitted, will necessarily be limited to situations in which the woman in the couple cannot bear her own child. It would clearly be attractive to some women not to have to go through pregnancy. Womb-leasing could dramatically challenge cultural perceptions of and attitudes to the family and familial responsibilities.

I wish to concentrate on research on embryos. I do so because it makes us confront an issue which is basic to much of the thinking about IVF and which goes to the heart of our humanity. Doctors commonly fertilize more eggs than they subsequently implant in the woman. May they conduct research on these "spare" embryos? At present we are told, they are not doing so, until some moral guidance is offered. To ask whether they may is to ask the moral status of such an embryo. Another and arresting way of putting it is, what, if anything, is the difference between an early embryo and a hamster?

What may legitimately be done with embryos "excess to need"? This is not some factual inquiry concerning "when life begins". The inquiry is as follows: granted that this entity has this entity (and I use this abstract term intentionally), and granted that its coming into being as an entity and its ceasing to exist as an entity involve a process with no sure beginning or end, what are the characteristics we deem it relevant for the entity to have, so as to have some moral claim to respect, or so that we have some moral duty to it. In answering this question, it may be conceded that whatever claims it has (or duties we owe it) may increase as it progresses towards that

point at which its claim to respect, and usually protection, is greatest. This may be when it has been born alive, and does not fall into that class of severely handicapped babies whom we may think it morally right to allow to die.

If this entity's claims on us become greater as time goes on, it follows that the claims of others, or our perceived duties to others whose circumstances are closely associated with the entity, though they may still outweigh the entity's claims, will have to be shown to be increasingly strong.

The point in the development of the entity at which it begins to make a claim to protection on us has then to be chosen. It is, of course, a choice, a selection of a significant point. One view is that it should be that point at which the entity takes on some minimal quality of humanness. Since we are here talking of a moral commitment, we could say that this is a matter of faith, or an irarguable premise. This would block further argument. But, if reasons are to be offered to justify choosing one point against another, the reasons must be defensible.

Of the various reasoned arguments offered, the one which at present attracts most attention is that, in choosing the significant point, we should analogize from the definition of death. Dr Robert Edwards, in particular, favours this approach. After all, the definition of death is, in effect, a statement about life, since it is concerned with determining when those factors and qualities which amount to humanness are absent, such that the person may be pronounced dead, though, of course, the organism continues to live in parts.

If we except as relevant criteria for determining death, the irreversible absence of pulse and respiration and the capacity for consciousness and sentience, then it could be said that there is an element of symmetry, and that it is rationally defensible to use the first appearance of these faculties as the beginning of humanness. It would then be a matter of technical expertise to discover when these faculties, particularly those associated with sentience, were developed, although it would still call for a choice as to what stage of development was sufficient.

## No human life should be used as a means to an end

On such a basis for analysing the acquisition of a minimal quality of humanness, and its gradual development thereafter, it could be argued that after the relevant developmental stage was reached (e.g. 25+ days of embryonic life), the entity can be called human. Once called human, it has some claim to respect and protection, though not, as we have seen, an absolute claim.

On such a notion of humanness, would it be licit to conduct experiments once the embryo had reached the relevant stage of development? Some would say that, even though it has a claim to respect and protection, research which could enhance understanding and/or improve the health or lot of others, could still be justified on some utilitarian basis. I find this argument unpalatable. It involves violating what many would see as a fundamental principle - that we may not use humans as means to an end, but must respect them as ends in themselves. This would mean that the entity was judged to have even the most limited form of humanness it would be entitled to respect and protection from being the object of research.



Does it follow that research on entities that have not reached that stage of development is morally permissible? All the working parties that have reported so far have suggested it should be permissible. I ask you to suspend judgment for a while. I shall divide the question into two parts.

If the development of the entity that is now available for research has not been facilitated by the doctor with the primary intention of using it for research purposes, then prima facie there may be no objection in principle to its being used for research. Its availability would be fortuitous and, as with tissue available after abortion, it could be said that it is justifiable to take advantage of such a fortuitous occurrence so as to enhance knowledge and improve treatment of others.

But what of the situation in which the development of the entity available for research has been facilitated by the doctor (or research scientist) with the primary intention of using it for research and then discarding it? Here there may be considerable difficulty in condoning such research.

Any moral objection may at first seem hard to defend, if it is granted that the entity in question has not developed to the stage at which it acquires characteristics consonant with a current view of humanness. But, in reaching any moral judgment, I am concerned with the intention of the moral agent, the researcher. If the intention is, as stipulated, to facilitate the development of an entity only so as to do research, then it is proper to inquire whether this intention is morally defensible.

Clearly to some people, there would be few problems, since it cannot be difficult to argue that the benefits to be gained from such research outweigh any costs, particularly because the entity does not have any of the characteristics of humanness, and, in other words, of no more moral worth than a hamster or a piece of mouse tissue.

But such an analysis is far from satisfactory. More compelling may be those arguments which would suggest the research is morally wrong because the intention of the researcher is morally repugnant. In arriving at such a conclusion, it is important to notice at the outset that our genuine and conscience-researching agonizing over the issue arises precisely because we do not equate a fertilized human egg with a hamster or a piece of mouse tissue. If we did, there would be no debate.

But why is it morally repugnant? Let us take the argument in stages. The first point to notice is that the doctor or researcher facilitated the development of more embryos than were needed for implanting in the woman. The doctor or researcher could have settled for one or two embryos, but chose not to do so. Had he done so, the question of what to do with the "spare" embryos would not have arisen.

Second, the doctor has deliberately chosen not to implant the "spare" embryos. There was a time when IVF continually failed to produce any pregnancy. Then the procedure was improved and successful implantation is now a real possibility. So, in the case of research, what the doctor has chosen to do is to deny this entity the possibility of developing further, so that he can do research on it. By his

intervention, therefore, he has caused it to be used and, thereby, to be caused to cease to exist. This can be asserted to be morally wrong.

The moral wrongness cannot, of course, be based simply on the fact that a choice was made not to implant it, although some seem to be content to rest on this. They argue that this is another example of hubris, in that man chooses which entity shall continue to live (or join the lottery which may result in birth), and which shall not. But, such an argument is question-begging, in that it is only hubris or morally wrong if the entity chosen not to live deserves greater moral respect than such a choice represents.

## Potentiality: a valid hypothesis despite scientific objections

The argument must lie elsewhere. Some rely on the idea that although the entity lacks what have been advanced as the necessary features of humanness, so as to allow it to have a claim to protection, it does have a certain feature which sets it apart. This is the potentiality to become human.

One form of this potentiality argument is, however, hard to sustain. What has to be argued is that the mother's egg, once fertilized, has acquired the necessary and sufficient characteristics, namely its genetic coding, which will allow it, without more, to become human. The difficulty with this position is that the evidence does not bear it out.

Scientists will point to examples of embryonic development without fertilization, (such as the hydatidiform mole) and to genetic changes subsequent to fertilization. Also the fertilized egg will need a sympathetic womb, such that its mere existence does not entail that it has the necessary and sufficient conditions for development to humanness.

There is, however, an alternative form of the potentiality argument which may be sustainable. To assert that something has the potentiality to develop into something else is not necessarily to assert that it has the necessary and sufficient conditions to do so. It may merely mean that it has a good chance of becoming that thing, that it has the opportunity to do so. In the context of the fertilized egg, it means that it meets certain criteria, it has the necessary genetic material to enable it to participate in the lottery which nature contrives for the continuation of existence until birth.

The exceptional cases, such as development without fertilization, can then be discounted as exceptions which prove the rule. They do not embarrass this form of potentiality, since it does not rest on the notion of necessary and sufficient conditions. Equally, that the fertilized egg may not succeed in nature's lottery, or that nature contrives to waste many such eggs, are not arguments against this form of potentiality, for the following reason.

We would not argue that everything which occurs naturally is necessarily good, otherwise killing would be even more widespread. Indeed, it is the chosen aim of medical science to allow man to come to terms with nature rather than be subject to its whims. Thus, it follows that just because something happens naturally it is not a good argument for causing it to happen by man's intervention, when we have the choice to act otherwise.

This form of the potentiality argument would still leave open the question whether the fertilized egg, being only potentially human, could make a claim on us for protection and whether the claim was so strong as to make research on it morally wrong. One way of responding, which may demonstrate the plausibility of the argument, is to notice the fact that we are sufficiently concerned and exercised about the early embryo to feel the need to justify our behaviour towards it. If it were the moral equivalent of a hamster, our concern would be less, or of a different order. The reason may well lie precisely in the fact that it has the potential to be human, regardless of whether it can or will realize it.

The argument can be tested another way. Let us accept for the moment the minimum criterion of humanness now commanding agreement, namely the capacity for sentience, or the development of the central nervous system. Let us further imagine that a technique was developed which could inhibit, or prevent the development of, the brain or nervous system, but otherwise allowed for normal development of the embryo. Would it then be morally licit to experiment on such embryos, intentionally crippled so that they can never meet the criterion of humanness? The response would undoubtedly be one of moral outrage. On analysis such outrage would be seen to rest on the wrongness of interference with the potentiality of the embryo to develop further.

Quite apart from arguments about potentiality, there is another reason why research on early embryos, in the circumstances I have outlined, may be said to be morally wrong. This rests on the proposition that there is something special, something commanding moral respect, in

## Self-regulation or guidelines are not enough

Two replies are available. The first is that the utilitarian calculus is not so easy. Much depends on the weight you attach to the interests of the embryo and what the protection of those interests may represent as a statement about our commitment to respect, for humanness, or the capacity for humanness. To prefer the interests of future children, or science, against those of a minuscule entity, just because it is minuscule and immensely vulnerable, is to assume what has to be proved, that the embryo's interests, because it is minuscule, are worth less. The second argument would be that, of course, utilitarianism is not the only basis for moral analysis.

There still remains the question of whether, any type of regulation should be laid down and, if so, what the form and content should be. As to form, the options range from professional conscience, to generally agreed guidelines, to appropriately drafted law. Because of the importance of the questions at stake, that they represent a statement of society's concern for humanness, and because of doubts as to whether the scientific community can adequately restrain itself, I would argue that, whatever moral view be adopted, regulation is called for, and that law must be the appropriate regulatory mechanism.

If the law is to command respect (and therefore obedience), it must not stray too far from the collective conscience of society. If the sense of moral outrage were widely enough felt and strong enough, this would provide an additional ground; over and above, any reasoned arguments, to outlaw research on embryos.

If the conclusion is reached that research on embryos should be outlawed, does this mean that any "spare" embryos must merely be discarded? It does not. Instead, the arguments already advanced concerning the moral claims of the embryo and the moral wrongness of creating the circumstances in which we have to choose which embryo should continue to live, suggest otherwise. The creation of "spare" embryos should not be facilitated in the first place. This would mean that the woman would have to content herself with the 16 per cent chance of pregnancy associated with the taking, fertilizing and implanting of one egg at a time.

Thus, however, is the price which she must pay, if any other course is morally objectionable.

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Nostalgia is always a banana skin. I thought I had discovered a true old fashioned New York waiter recently, at an elderly restaurant high on Madison Avenue. He wore a mustard-coloured jacket; he was, indeed, grey-haired, lugubrious and kindly, as he explained the distinction between the western omelette and the Spanish. He took our order and left us with the heavily quiet tread of a Benedictine on the way to evensong. I remarked to my friend how nice it was to meet a waiter who wasn't an actor, and what a quiet, restful place this was.

During our meal, a commotion broke out at the cash register. There was shouting, banging glass and what sounded like a pistol shot. Almost at once, a police car slewed across the pavement before our eyes and four leather officers ran in. A man in a blue raincoat accompanied them outside, tentatively raised an arm. Our waiter replied by raising his own arm satirically.

I know from experience that it is tough being a waiter, and that one of the job's few unalloyed pleasures is to spoil a customer's story on the very punch-line. I realize that to earn a living in the labyrinthine hierarchy of New York restaurants, a waiter must project his personality by any possible means.

My objections founder when, as often happens, I see specials recited with charm or notable cunning. I remember once overhearing a Sicilian waiter sell one special to an anti-estate table, using the same blend of threat and promise that has made the restaurant itself immortal. "It's faux naïveté - 'Oh-oh! I just knew I'd leave out the Veal Parmigiana' - and seldom has a concentration span lasting much beyond his initial big number. The misanthropic - no doubt disappointed by some recent audition - assail their

clients with subtle manifestations of the Theatre of Cruelty. I am thinking of a particular Upper West Side bistro, where the menu tells you who designed the waiters' shirts.

He was, of course, a consummate performer. The difference was that, after a long diet of trendy prima donnas, we had stumbled on King Lear.

Philip Norman

## Entree right - then it's ham with everything

### Pointless

The teams have finally emerged for the quarter-final stages of the Benson and Hedges cricket tournament after the series of arduous computations that are needed when teams finish level on points. They have a more direct solution to such problems in Ireland. The All-Ireland knock-out competition does away with such niceties as points. When weather prevents a game of cricket to decide who is the mightier, the sides trudge out into the middle in the pouring rain, and all eleven men on each side take it in turns to bowl a ball at the unguarded stumps. The match is decided on the number of hits, and if they are equal, they start all over again. Once the Leinster captain, fearing such an ordeal, took his team out for a practice shoot-out. In 35 attempts, the stumps were struck three times. In the two seasons of the competition, the ultimate solution has, sadly, been used but twice.

### Boxing ball

*The Times* sponsorship desk football predictions competition has clearly shown the advantages of inside source and specialist knowledge. The competition was won by boxing correspondent Srikrishna - "that's the game with the round ball, isn't it?" - Sen. by about half a length from the racing editor, John Karter. John is said to be "gutted" by the result.

### Handy advice

Being a fully paid-up member of the wicketkeeper's trade union, I am always pleased to see recognition that wicketkeepers are by far the most important people in the game, and so I am applauding the announcement by Gordon's Gin, that it will continue to sponsor the wicketkeeper of the month and wicketkeeper of the year awards. I am also pleased to see that David Lemmon has

### SPORTING DIARY

brought out a book, *The Great Wicketkeepers*, which includes some immensely salient advice which I won't be taking up. He tells us that Herbert Strudwick failed to recommend keepers: "Rinse your hands in the chamber-pot every day. The urine hardens them wonderfully."

### Playing politics

Graham Taylor, the Watford manager, has acquired an unexpected soul-mate in Lesley Adela of the 300 Group. Taylor managed the impossible in bringing Watford from obscurity to the first division and Wembley. Lesley Adela confides: "I often feel about the same, trying to take the number of women in Parliament from 25 to 300."

### Photo-finish

*The Times* recently published a romantic picture of a string of racing horses and their tired

### BARRY FANTONI

riders returning from the gallops in Newmarket. Now the Jockey Club has been asking us whose string it shows, because the bad lads on top had illegally undone the chins of their protective headgear. We couldn't help. Our photographer has no idea which horses they were. They just made a nice pattern, so he went click.

### Truck dive

The oldest female diver in the United States, 82-year-old Violet Krahn, will demonstrate her back dive with half twist this weekend. She is involved in the US Masters competition and returned to competitive diving in 1978 after a break of 50 years. When her coach first saw her dive back in 1921, his spontaneous response was: "She can't dive! She looks like the back end of a truck!" Needless to say, they got married.

● This is your last weekend to watch demonstrations of the odd pastime of pot-holing in trees. The Peterborough Pot Holing Club is long on enthusiasm, but short on actual pot holes. So members practise in trees. They are doing it as part of the Peterborough Festival of Sport this weekend.

### Floating

It has to be admitted that concrete canoe racing is an unusual sport. But on June 23 and 24, 200 competitors will be racing 51 canoes, all of them made of concrete. It is the brainchild of that is the word I'm looking for, of the Concrete Society, and its aim is "to further the education and training of university and college students in the design properties of concrete in an unusual application". Among the university students who could be interested are nine young fellows from Cambridge University.

Simon Barnes



The truest thing I have heard about eating out in New York was said by an editor of *Rolling Stone*. After the recitation was over and the menu had been melodramatically snatched away, "There are no more waiters left in this town," she remarked glumly. "They're all nice, patterned shirts," she added.

house issues  
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## BADLY LENT, BADLY SPENT

Where has all the money gone? In the welter of discussion about international debt that question does not seem much to be raised. Yet it must be relevant both to the process of determining where the basic responsibility for this crisis lies, so that, by extension, one should know where to look for action, to relieve it, and secondly, to evaluate future policies for lending to the debtors.

Is it because the debtors have used their loans so badly that they now claim to be unable to honour the debt at higher interest rates? Why is there so little to show for their borrowing? It seems that the money was badly lent in the first place, and badly spent in the second. Admittedly this poor lending and poor borrowing long preceded President Reagan's budget deficit and the high interest rates which are their consequence. They occurred mostly in the early '70s, when lenders and borrowers alike took advantage of nil or negative interest rates to enter into contracts which must have been loosely conceived and optimistically policed. Moreover, in Mexico and Argentina at least, there are new men trying to cope with the profligacy of their predecessors.

The economic prosperity of the developed world was not achieved with fly-by-night borrowing, nor was it an overnight phenomenon. However, the debt crisis reminds us of the brittleness of even our prosperity. In Europe, the United States and Japan prosperity sprung from a combination of order and flexibility; order in a stable political environment, enabling investors and entrepreneurs to exploit their talents with the greatest flexibility. In the developing world we see the reverse: disorder and rigidity. There is disorder in the political environment and rigidities stultify most of those economic structures

which have had Western money poured into them.

So where has all the money gone? In the early seventies American banks scrambled for business in developing countries and the Soviet block, since they expected more profits than they could achieve in the United States where lending rates were controlled. They helped to finance hundreds of projects which had little prospect of profitability. They were encouraged to do this by official authorities and central banks keen to see them recycle petro-dollars.

Because they received official encouragement then, the banks now look to the official authorities to bail them out. The question of their own imprudence, which in banking must be a half-sister to incompetence, has become a secondary matter, while the politics predominate. The banks politicize their position by invoking official responsibility for their imprudence. They also claim assistance on the basis that confidence in the banking system is a strategic necessity which requires government and central banks to operate as lenders of last resort. That is not in question, provided that the process only secures depositors and does not protect the banks and their shareholders from the well deserved verdict of the market.

On the borrowing side there is as much politicization as among the lenders. The debtor countries give the impression that they can blackmail their bankers into being relieved of their obligations. Many technical devices are being considered to help them overcome their difficulties. They may come in many guises, but the impression of blackmail can scarcely disguise the fact that in a stricter world there would only be one name for it: default.

If both borrower and lender expect to be rescued from the

consequences of their own miscalculation, what responsibility is left to them? How can they both be prevented from getting into the same trouble again? Admittedly, the governments of Mexico and Brazil at least seem to be trying to remould their economies to meet the demands which indebtedness imposes on them. But they still have a long way to go. It is a measure of how indulgent Western agencies have been in their lending to the developing world that these two countries can attract so many points for good conduct when their economic policies still act against the free influx of equity capital, labour under overburdened bureaucracies and appear to have no readiness to sell off state-owned assets to relieve some of the debt. The capital value of Mexico's state owned oil company, for instance, itself probably exceeds Mexico's entire external debt; yet we hear no suggestions that some of it could be sold to relieve the debt and reduce Mexico's repayment problem.

Responsibility for this crisis must therefore be fully shared. It is not all President Reagan's fault; nor even can it be attributed simply to the shock of higher interest rates. Shared responsibility should begin a shared programme for recovery. If governments protect bank deposits and participate sceptically in schemes to rephase sovereign debts, sovereign debtors should also show, far more than they have done, that they are now prepared to adopt statutory provision of single-option arbitration. The proposal was disregarded at that time; subsequent events make it a matter of urgency for the issue to be further explored by all parties, and not least by the Secretary of State for Education and Science.

If we want peace in our schools in our time, that is the way ahead. Yours faithfully,  
PETER DAWSON.  
General Secretary,  
Professional Association of Teachers,  
99 Friar Gate,  
Derby.  
May 22.

turn up to vote instead of having push-buttons and proxies? Why, it is as wasteful as letting MPs luxuriate in limitless questions costing on average £64 (oral) or £39 (written) an answer!

Yet the fault is not in the system but in the novices who misused it. Given the power of a parliamentary party majority (without which Parliament would be chaotic) and the massive weapons of the guillotine and the closure (themselves invented as a protection against nineteenth century filibustering by Irish Nationalists) the only substantial day-to-day power of an Opposition is to try to rob the Government of parliamentary time, and to use procedure against ministers. "Procedure is all the Constitution the poor Briton has," as the historian and parliamentarian Sir Kenneth Pickthorn once put it in the House.

Looked at from the outside, this fruitless exercise may well seem to confirm the opinions of those who see parliamentary procedure in action as an expense of spirit in a waste of shame. Surely these things could be ordered better! What a way to run a country! Is it not as absurd as expecting moribund MPs to No great harm was done.

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## AN UNSHAMEFUL WASTE

The second bank holiday weekend in May must have come in the nick of time for those MPs who have just staggered home exhausted by thirty-six sleepless hours on or near the benches of the House of Commons. Judged by the results, their sacrifice was of no benefit to anyone, not even the Alliance members who contrived to keep the House up all night by upstaging the Labour opposition.

At the time, it obviously seemed a bright idea. On Tuesday, the Commons were devoting themselves to the Committee stage of the generally unloved paving bill which suspends elections next year to the Greater London Council and to the metropolitan county councils, in advance of their abolition. As is usual on such occasions, the 10 o'clock rule which ends the business of the House at that time was in suspense and Members could continue with the business as long as they wanted.

It was, however, expected by agreement to end at a reasonable hour. The Labour Party, therefore, had duly departed when the Liberals, under the temporary guidance of Mr Simon Hughes (who holds the once rock-solid Labour seat of Bermondsey by

courtesy of Mr Peter Taichell's candidature) seized the initiative and kept the business going all night with what, in lay language, would be called a filibuster — though since this would be unprocedural it is never deemed correct to describe anything that has actually happened by that word.

Then, on Wednesday morning, the Conservatives began to see what was in it for them. By themselves keeping the "filibuster" going beyond 2.30pm, the starting time of the new day's sitting, they obliterated Wednesday's business, which was to have been an emergency debate on the closing of the British Leyland plant at Bargate. Instead, they were able to press straight ahead with the third reading of the GLC paving bill, thus freeing themselves of Mr Heath's opinions and the press of the obligation to relay them. No great harm was done.

Looked at from the outside, this fruitless exercise may well seem to confirm the opinions of those who see parliamentary procedure in action as an expense of spirit in a waste of shame. Surely these things could be ordered better! What a way to run a country! Is it not as absurd as expecting moribund MPs to

## A BISHOP'S BELIEFS

The Church of England prides itself on being a broad church, not just comprehensive in the traditional sense of embracing Protestant and Catholic beliefs but also able to contain everyone from the Biblical fundamentalist to the radical theologian. It is not a formula for perfect harmony, and in fact at any point in time there is somewhere a little guerrilla war going on between conflicting points of view. The latest outbreak is between the Bishop-Designate of Durham, Professor David Jenkins, and those members of the church who feel that his exposition of dogma in the television programme *Credo* undermines the declaratory force of the Nicene *Credo* which they profess every Sunday.

Professor Jenkins' views are already a matter of record, as he has set down his considered theological judgments in print many times, and those responsible for nominating him, especially the Crown Appointments Commission of the Church of England, must have considered him sound enough. One of his attractions is that his refreshing intellectual candour may make Christian belief more accessible to those who find it hard to respond to too much emphasis on miracles and wonder.

There is a distinction to be made between questioning a

belief and denying it: questioning can be a responsible activity in the church, leading to better and deeper understanding. For a theologian, to deny what is commonly held to be a fundamental tenet of the Anglican faith is apparently, in the present day, tolerated, but the church would be unwise to prefer him for senior episcopal appointment. That does not apply to Professor Jenkins, however, and it would be unjust to discuss the matter as if it did.

The more exact issue is whether a bishop (or bishop designate) should allow himself to speculate in public, to express doubts and raise questions, even if his defence (as in this case) is that he is in fact upholding orthodoxy by the way he puts it. It must be a matter of degree; and of the overall impression likely to be given, balancing the needs of the simplest of the simple faithful against the laudable aim of presenting religion in terms which meet some of the difficulties of a sceptical world.

Against those shocked and offended by the late Dr John Robinson's *Honest to God* book must be set those helped by it, of which there were certainly some. But the parallel is not perfect: there was an element of almost mischievous iconoclasm in Dr Robinson's case which is missing in the present one.

Nevertheless Professor Jen-

kins was cautious. As a man about to be a bishop he must act as if he was one, which implies a responsibility for holding together the various threads and themes in Anglicanism. An Anglo-Catholic who becomes a bishop must be particularly gentle towards Evangelicals, and vice versa; a theologian of the modern school must similarly be particularly careful with the susceptibilities of the conservatives. This is undoubtedly an inhibition on lively minds used to cut and thrust in academic debate, but regular churchgoers do not expect their spiritual aspirations to be turned into so much seminar fodder. And as a bishop he will be a member of a college of bishops, who also singly and collectively have the same responsibilities.

A mission to raise the level of theological awareness in the church would be no bad thing, from their point of view, provided the missionary, being one of their number, does not proceed as if he were alone, and takes account of their longer experience of managing this broad church. Meanwhile they stand to gain enormously from having among them a restless intellectual like the Bishop-Designate of Durham: no doubt he will have searching questions to put to them, too, but unlike the viewing public, they can question back.

Nevertheless Professor Jen-

## Exercising options on school pay

From the General Secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers

Sir, Tucked away in your leader of May 21 about the teachers' salary dispute was the measure most likely to resolve once and for all the problem which regularly besets salary negotiations. I refer to the introduction of what is sometimes known as single-option arbitration, which would eliminate the customary high-claim/low-offer positions taken up by the different sides under present arrangements.

It is perfectly clear that, were it the current practice for arbitrators to settle upon either claim or offer, the proceedings in the Burnham committee this year would not have begun with a claim in excess of 30 per cent set against an offer of 3 per cent. What possible hope has there ever been of negotiating a settlement when those were the starting positions?

Had single-option arbitration been in prospect the employers would very likely have started at 4 per cent and the teachers at 6 per cent. A manifestly inadequate offer would have given the game away to the teachers: an excessive claim would have been equivalent to an own goal.

Essential to the success of a single-option arrangement is the proviso that arbitration should be available at the request of one side. Were Burnham procedures to revert to that practice, single-option arbitration could hardly fail to eliminate disruption from our schools. It would also be likely to hasten salary settlements, since the position of the two sides at the outset would be relatively close. In short, the existence of such arbitration arrangements would significantly reduce the likelihood of resort to conciliation.

In the autumn of 1982 the Professional Association of Teachers recommended to the teachers' panel of the Burnham committee that a policy be adopted aimed at securing statutory provision of single-option arbitration. The proposal was disregarded at that time; subsequent events make it a matter of urgency for the issue to be further explored by all parties, and not least by the Secretary of State for Education and Science.

If we want peace in our schools in our time, that is the way ahead.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER DAWSON.

General Secretary,  
Professional Association of Teachers,  
99 Friar Gate,  
Derby.  
May 22.

From Mr R. M. Rowett

Sir, Dr Kenneth Ulyatt (May 21) calls for payment by results: but that is hardly realistic.

Looking back at the end of a teaching career with only not quite 100 per cent failure, and seeing that by present standards I should never have been appointed to the first place, I am conscious of two abiding principles: first, that for both teacher and pupils, esteem and desert are not related; and secondly, that in no way can the value of a teacher or his work be assessed objectively.

Therefore, the only course for ensuring sound and efficient teaching is to offer a rate of remuneration which will induce good candidates.

Yours faithfully,

R.M. ROWETT,  
14 Ildersley Grove, SE21.  
May 22.

From Mrs A. Mackay Miller

Sir, I was the teacher who received that letter (May 23) and who set that extra work — "Draw six items that you can buy at a cafe-table in France: you must include stamps and postcards."

I did it because I knew that my pupils would miss their lesson on Wednesday, May 9.

I belong to the one teaching union pledged not to strike — and I didn't!

Yours faithfully,

PAMELA MILLER,  
(Head of Modern Languages,  
Rothelaw School,  
Little Oaks,  
Painters Forstal,  
Faversham,  
Kent.  
May 23.

## Blossom time

From Mr Alan Neame

Sir, I have to inform you that in this parish the bamboo is flowering for the second year running. Our field prophets and village sibyls are agreed that this is a most sinister portent, but none can tell of what.

Yours perturbed,

ALAN NEAME,  
Trafalgar House,  
Selling,  
Mr Faversham,  
Kent.  
May 15.

## Saleroom losses

From Lord De L'Isle, VC

Sir, In view of Lord Astor's letter of May 16 about the sale of works of art to national museums, it seems necessary to recite the actual events of the sale of the Earl of Southampton's armour in the order in which they occurred, to which he has referred.

As Lord Astor says, the Southampton armour was sold at Sotheby's on May 5, 1983, when the Armouries bid unsuccessfully. The issue of an export licence, necessary for any work of art valued at £8,000 or over, was officially objected to and the application was therefore referred to the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art.

They met to consider the case on August 18, 1983. On their recommendation the Minister for the Arts exercised his power to impose a six-month delay on the issue of the

licence from that date, to allow institutions in this country time to match the price. This, including the auctioneer's premium, VAT, and the dealer's commission, came to £372,950.

The outcome was that the Armouries successfully raised this sum in time and it was therefore necessary to ask for any extension of the temporary export ban.

It was not possible for the Armouries to make their appeal before the minister's decision and it took until October 5 to make all the arrangements necessary for a national and international appeal.

The appeal closed on February 18, 1984. The Armouries were thus able to make their offer to the purchaser, who had the armour in his possession in this country. As a result of this successful negotiation the armour is now on display in the Tower of London.

It seems necessary to point out

## Challenging views from on high

From the Reverend P. J. Addison

Sir, The views of the Reverend Professor David Jenkins may well be capable of an entirely orthodox interpretation". (See your correspondent, Mr Clifford Longley (May 14). But what the professor said (if we can rely upon press reports of a programme many of us did not see) has the effect of undermining the work of faithful parish priests and bewildering the laity.

We of simple faith are rather weary of ideologues, however eminent, who blunder on to the television screens oblivious of the effect their opinion may have. Many viewers will not have realized that it is a personal opinion, subject to the faith of the Church, and any long-standing Anglican freedom in the interpretation of Scripture and the historic creeds which has in its time permitted opinions of an heretical character to be professed by members of the episcopate.

What a man thinks in the study of theology is one thing, it may well differ from day to day. It seems possible to pursue the subject as an academic interest without actually believing anything at all and one suggests that much of it can addle a man's mind.

But however intelligible the debate may be within academic circles it is unworthy to expose such questions in places where the terms of reference simply will not be understood (see the headlines); and such "thinking aloud" is bound to be regarded as the authentic voice of the Church when it is nothing of the kind.

It is altogether different, however, when a man aspires to office in the Church, and particularly high office. The Church's use of theology is to explain, interpret, and uphold the faith, hammered out at great pains against ancient heresy (which is with us yet); in which the key must be, what did the Lord Jesus teach; what did the early Church believe; and what did the ancient fathers proclaim?

In so saying I do not wish to pre-judge the question of Professor Jenkins's orthodoxy; but I cannot see why those of us who support the Church of England, a voluntary society which nowadays makes constantly increasing demands upon the pockets of its members, should be expected to accept without question those who are placed in authority over us without any consultation.

Unlike the Dean of Durham I do not even have the right to cast a vote, under the Crown's direction, for the Bishop-elect.

Yours faithfully,

GERALD BONNER.

University of Durham,  
Department of Theology,  
Abbey House,  
Palace Green,  
Durham.

May 23.

It has also been suggested that a weak Chief of Defence Staff and a strong Secretary of State could be a lethal combination". That we have had weak chiefs of defence staff and weak chiefs of staff is unarguable, but perhaps the new system will ensure that more appropriate selections are made in future to obviate such a predicament.

We were fortunate that during the Falklands war we had Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence Lewin (now Lord Lewin) as Chief of Defence Staff and the sole adviser to the Secretary of State and the Cabinet rather than some of his predecessors.

Under the new system, the chiefs of staff will have their say on policy and procurement matters, but the advice to the Secretary of State will be proffered by the Chief of Defence Staff, supported by his central staff, which should ensure that decisions are based on the best advice possible and in the best interests of the Armed Forces and of the country.

STEWART MENAUL.

The Lodge,  
Frensham Vale,  
Lower Bourne,  
Farnham,  
Surrey.

May 21.

For some years past, inter-Service bickering over issues of policy and procurement of armaments has produced compromise solutions which have not been in the best interests of the Services or the country and it was inevitable that those who had held the highest posts under the system that had existed for some twenty years should object to change, despite convincing evidence that change was necessary.



July, 1984

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Travel: Tasty treats for Channel hoppers in Calais and Boulogne; Travel News: Bargain flights for sun seekers

**13, 14**  
Bags of style in Values; In the Garden: Window boxes; Family Life goes to Devon; Prize Jumbo Crossword; Bridge; Chess

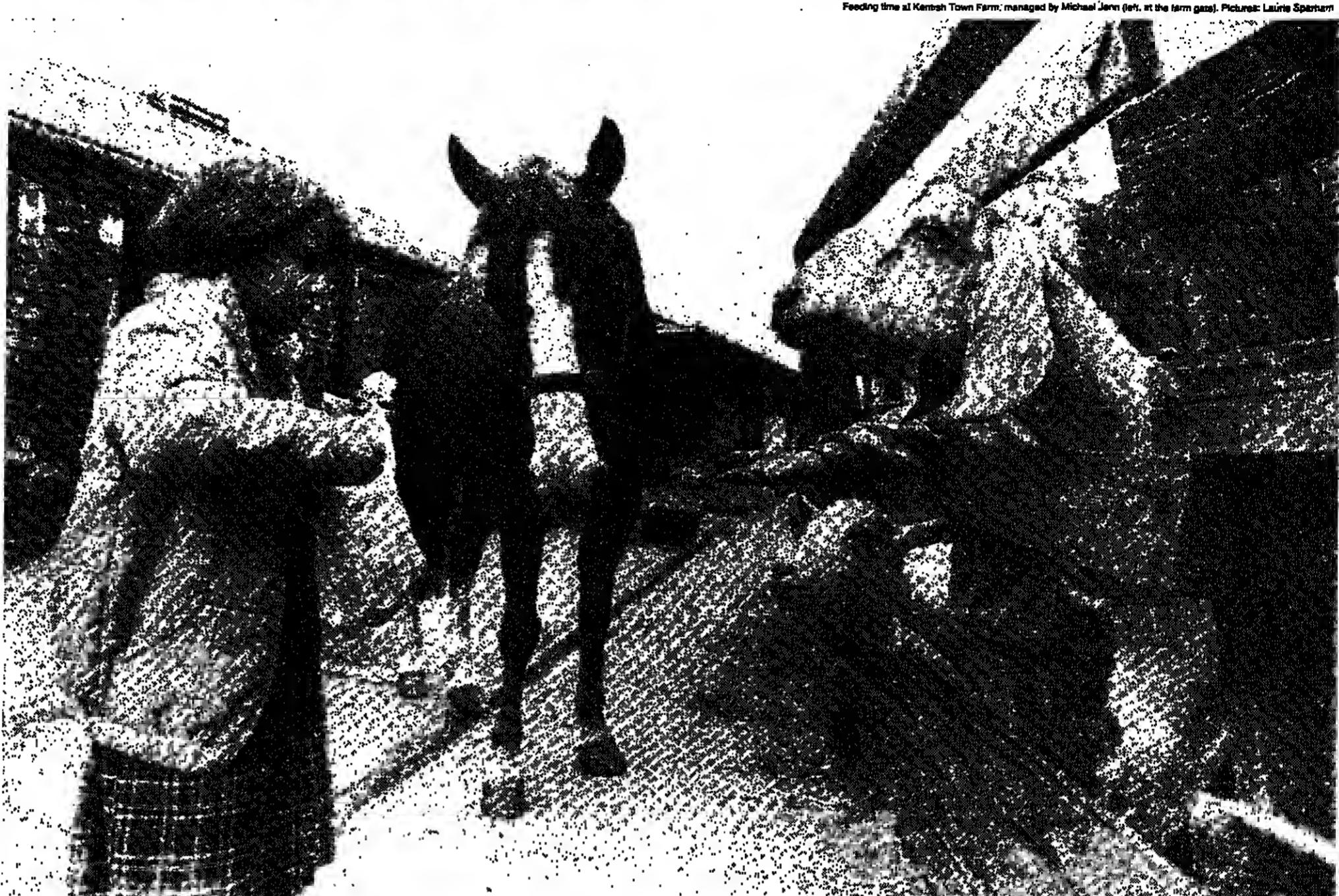
# THE TIMES Saturday

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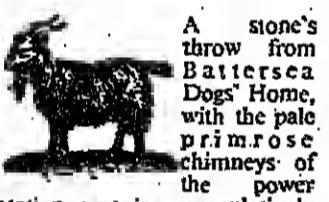
**17, 18**  
The Week: Critical guide to Television and Radio, Films on TV, Theatre and Film, Opera and Dance, Sport and Auctions

## City roots for a green revolution



Urban farms are sprouting like mushrooms on derelict sites, tucked away in back streets.

**David Nicholson-Lord set out to investigate and discovered a new growth industry.**



A stone's throw from Battersea Dogs' Home, with the pale primrose chimneys of the power station peeping speculatively over the railway viaduct, Will Ashton picks up a handful of earth. It runs through his fingers, dry, grey and lifeless. "The soil round here", he says with a measure of understatement, "is hopeless."

Hemmed in by three railway lines, two stations, a gypsy encampment and a disused gasworks, Gladstone Terrace, SW8, is not the most promising place to display the benefits of agriculture and horticulture. The trams to Victoria and Waterloo thunder past every five minutes, ruffling the Aylesbury ducks and drowning conversation. Ashton, urban smallholder and fringe theatre actor turned manager of Elm Farm, Battersea, has had to take the £2,500 deficit between farm animal revenues and feed costs.

Vauxhall, in London, is cultivating the rare ornamental Siberian pea shrub *Caragana arborescens* – for animals, and possibly humans too. John Bond, a former rural science teacher who is the National Federation of City Farms' fieldworker, calls this a "classical" multi-purpose, and hitherto overlooked, city farm crop. High in protein, it fixes nitrogen in the soil and – an important bonus for city farmers who, unlike their rural counterparts, have to please the planners – it keeps its leaves in winter: it looks nice.

Experiments like these are vital. City farms have grown strong on a rich diet of voluntary commitment backed by a complex tangle of funds from egg sales, bazaars, companies, charities, well-wishers and the state. Aid, however, can

recycling yard that would put the Stepies to shame.

And many things do come to market in cities – take-away food and greengrocery leftovers for animal feed, or spent grain from pubs' brewing their own beer.

Good topsoil is expensive so Windmill Hill started with 250 tons of fine mushroom compost from Heinz followed by a "green manure" crop of bright yellow mustard. Elm Farm is using freshwater mussels to keep its duck pond clean; Redditch is considering a compost toilet. Fruit bushes are planted for amenity, annuals converted into perennials by harvesting the seed.

Weds are coming into their own. Japanese knotweed, a rapid invader of waste city lots, has been tried at Cardiff and found useful for screening, composting and feeding goats. At Deen Farm in Merton, south London, Mrs Rachel Murray, the horticulturalist,

grows nettles and dandelions to eat. "There are only a dozen main agricultural crops in Britain", says Bond. "We're aiming to grow 200."

City farms' closeness to markets and the growing demand for organically-grown, free-range produce is another rung on the ladder to self-sufficiency. At Coventry they are experimenting with fenugreek, a basic ingredient of curries, and many other "ethnic" vegetables like gourds, melons and jute.

Meanwood Valley Farm, in Leeds, is one of several listed in *The Organic Food Guide* produced by the Henry Doubleday Research Association, and numbers five health food shops and a whole food restaurant among its regular customers.

At Cardiff, on its still scrubby rubbish tip, they will be shortly be harvesting – first worms, and then, in another month or two, corgi from its hibiscus. The farm breeds

worms for anglers and produces mirror and grass carp for a dozen local Chinese restaurants. But it insists that customers pick their own. "We are trying to teach people the relationship between the animal and the product they eat", says Ian Summers, the farm's animal husbandry manager. "So if someone wants goat's milk, we take them to the goat and they milk it themselves."

If city farmers chose, Bond believes, they could produce results "out of reach of commercial producers", if only because of the available labour. But principles are at stake. One Liverpool farm investigated intensive rabbit farming found it would produce handsome profits but dropped the idea when it sparked off a revolt.

Windmill Hill grew almost a quarter of a ton of artichokes, could not get rid of them to local people and sold two-thirds to hotels and restaurants at 40p

a pound. Then it thought again. "We asked ourselves why we were doing it", Primarolo says. "We could get much more for our produce commercially than from local people, but that is not why we are here. It is not the economic order that makes city farms right but the social order. We are trying to link the two – something the hard businessmen say can never be done. If it succeeds, we will have made a new economics."

The farm, he adds, produced a recipe sheet for the artichokes and had no trouble in selling the remaining hundredweight to locals at 10p a pound.

Oddly enough, in its search for an agriculture that is both socially and environmentally sensitive, the city farmers keep stumbling across ancient and forgotten practices, old and neglected strains. Tougher and rarer breeds like Soay sheep and Gloucester Old Spot pigs are better at foraging in arid cityscapes. Growing crops on roofs, a recent city farm innovation, was practised by the Vikings. And several farms are now experimenting with the "chicken tractor", a series of runs which cuts down on labour and allows the hens to remain virtually free-range because they do their own digging, harvesting and feeding.

The idea came from the emerging discipline of permaculture, the "perennial agriculture for human settlements" devised by the Australian Bill Mollison, winner of the Alternative Nobel Prize. The city

cooperative ventures to exploit the unique advantages of city farms may not be far behind. Sheep from several London farms will shortly be taken by horsebox to Kentish Town, to be shorn and dipped. The wool will be turned into rugs and sweaters at Elm Farm – a project characteristically social, educational and cash-producing. The House of Commons has expressed an interest in fresh city farm food – and where fresher than from Vauxhall, across the river?

There is also talk of "farm link" schemes in which city farms sponsor contacts between urban families and rural smallholders: the latter have a secure market, help at busy times, the former control over what they eat.

Small things, perhaps, but they may in time make a revolution. At Windmill Hill they have planted with a fine and untypical disregard of

natural ecology, a Californian redwood. When the farm opened six years ago, it was dismissed by critics as a five-minute wonder. But the redwood is a tree that grows high and lives long. It is the Windmill Hill farmers' way of saying they are there for good.



Sheds from scenery, ponds from tyres

## Help at hand for the farmers

Anyone can start a city farm. All you need is enthusiasm and commitment, inexhaustible supplies of tolerance and good humour, the patience of John and the political skills of Machiavelli.

If that sounds a trifle exaggerated, consider the case of the Hackney Six – a milkman, a housewife, two teachers, a youth worker and a play organizer who spied n coal yard on the Hackney Marshes and approached its owners, the Central Electricity Generating Board, with a modest proposal.

That was in October, 1978. Now, after a three-day public inquiry, a string of parliamentary questions and the investigation of some alternative sites, they are nearing their goal: a farm in the yard of a derelict brewery at the other end of the borough. If, as they hope, they move in this summer, it will have taken n shade under six years. Two of the group have stuck it out.

David Winters, the milkman and farm-coordinator designate, is now busy planning an orchard, a pond and a greenhouse for disabled people, possibly heated by fermenting animal and vegetable waste. His remains unmuttered, if a little bemused, by the experience. "I can't really say why it took so long. There was no single reason: it was partly not knowing how councils really operate, not being politically aware. You have to identify what you want to do and then make it very public, get local people and schools on your side.

Hackney is what is known in the city farms movement as a "sage". Fortunately it is exceptional. But, at a time when cities have growing expanses of derelict land and buildings, it demonstrates that pinpointing a site may only be the start of a complex process.

Is it worth it? In 1980 Bob and Gladys Gregory were offered a plot on the pensioners' garden at Keenish Town Farm. There is a building materials

north London, a few yards from the railway line. Mrs Gregory was pleased because her husband was retiring and she was worried that he would be bored. Both flat-dwellers, their sole experience of gardening was with window-boxes.

Mrs Gregory kept n log of

their second season on the farm.

On a plot measuring 18ft by 20ft, they produced 82lb of runner beans, 100lb of potatoes, 20lb of french beans, 20 marrows, 120lb of sugar snap peas, 15lb of onions, 30lb of tomatoes, together with cabbages, radishes and lettuce. "If that sounds like boasting, we are", she says. "We also get backache, but we enjoy every minute of it. Life, which we thought nearly over, is renewed every day."

**D. N. L.**

**City farm contacts:**

National Federation of City Farms, Old Vicarage, 65 Fratton Street, Windmill Hill, Birmingham, Bristol BS3 4LY (0272 660683). Publishes *City Farm News* and advises on all aspects of setting up and running a city farm.

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, 36 Mary's Street, Westgate, Canterbury, Kent ME1 (0303 287888). Increasingly involved in urban conservation. Has set target of delivering one million "workdays" each year on volunteer projects by the year 2000.

Society for Horticultural Therapy, Goods Garden, Vauxhall, London SE1 5DW (0171 547828).

A feature of many city farms is the society's belief that gardening is a means of self-expression which can achieve remarkable results with handicapped (and able-bodied) people.

Permaculture Association, Box 500, 8 Elm Avenue, Nottingham, NG1 2JL.

Preaches and practices urban farming, deep mulching, roof gardens, using town gardens for cooperative sheep rearing and fruit and nut harvesting. Weekend courses in July and Sept. Project planned in Brixton, south London.

Organic gardening: The Soil Association, Walnut Tree

Manor, Haughton, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 3RS (049 673239). Henry Doubleday Research Association, Coven Lane, Bunting, Braintree, Essex CM7 8RW (076 240883). A detailed study, *Organic Farming Systems in England and Wales: Practice, performance and implications*, has recently been produced by Anne Vina and David Bateman of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth (Department of Agricultural Economics, Aberystwyth SY 23 3DD, £5).

Educational:

Another important function of city farms is educating children (and many adults) about the environment – nature, agriculture and manmade. Wildlife areas like butterfly gardens and frog ponds are increasing in popularity.

Groups who can include:

Rural Preservation Association, The Old Vicarage, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 3RS (049 673239).

London Wildlife Trust, 1 Thorpe Close, London W10 (01-968 5388/9).

Streetworks, Notting Dale Urban Studies Centre, 189 Finsbury Road, London W10 (01-968 8942).

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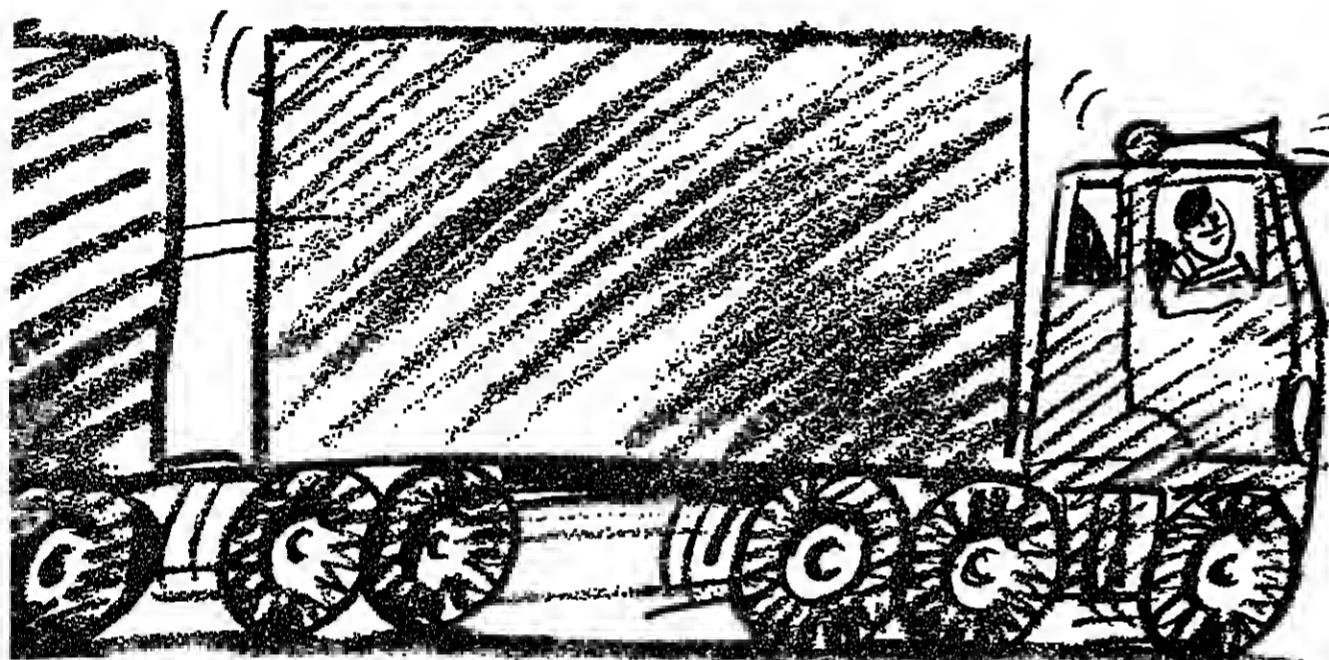
Streetworks, Notting Dale Urban Studies Centre, 189 Finsbury Road, London W10 (01-968 8942).

AA Members' Handbook, AA, 1000

# It's a lot less bovver with a Hover.



The Ferry.  
The slow boat from Dover to Calais.  
Average journey time: 1 hour 30 minutes.



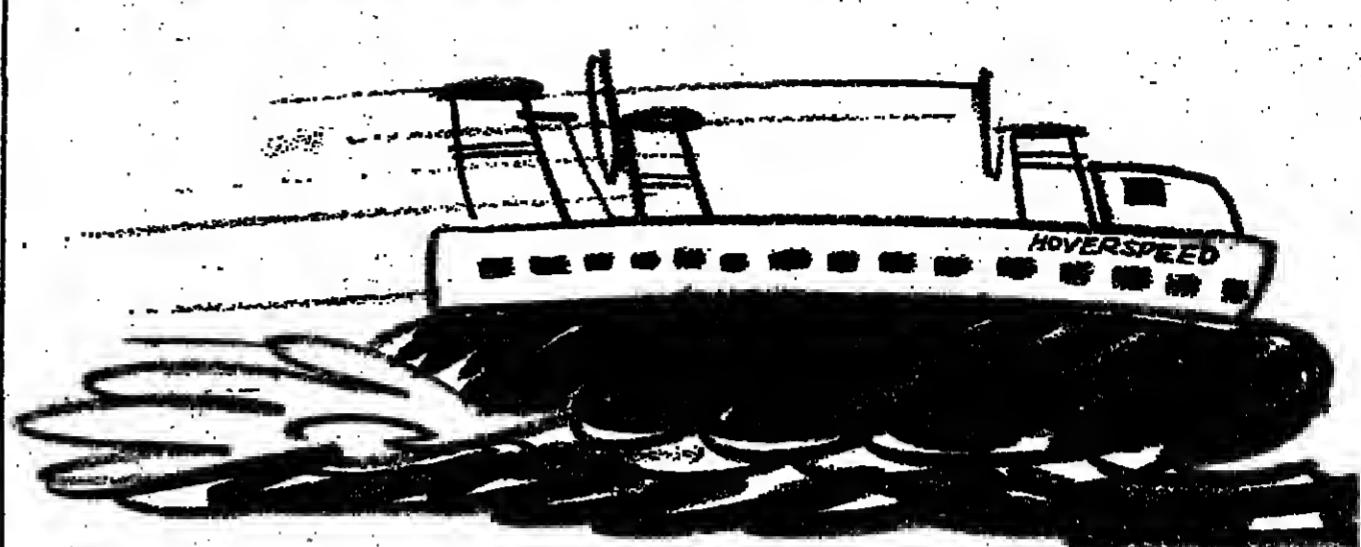
The queue starts here...  
Ferries take juggernauts, long loaders and other vehicles  
that take loads of time to load.  
So add a good 50 minutes to the journey time  
for good measure.



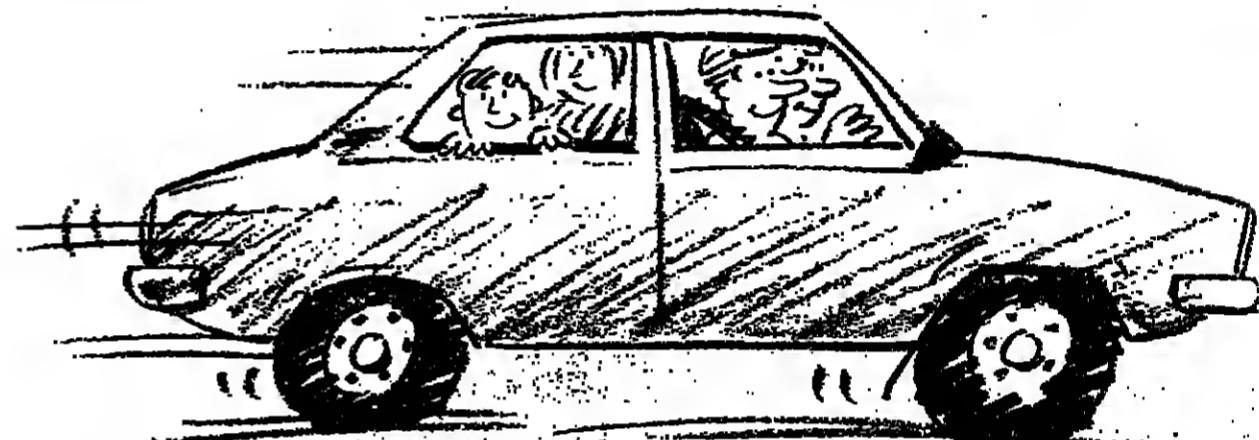
And here...  
Once you've found your seat on the ferry, you'll need a  
drink.  
You'll find the bar at the end of a queue.



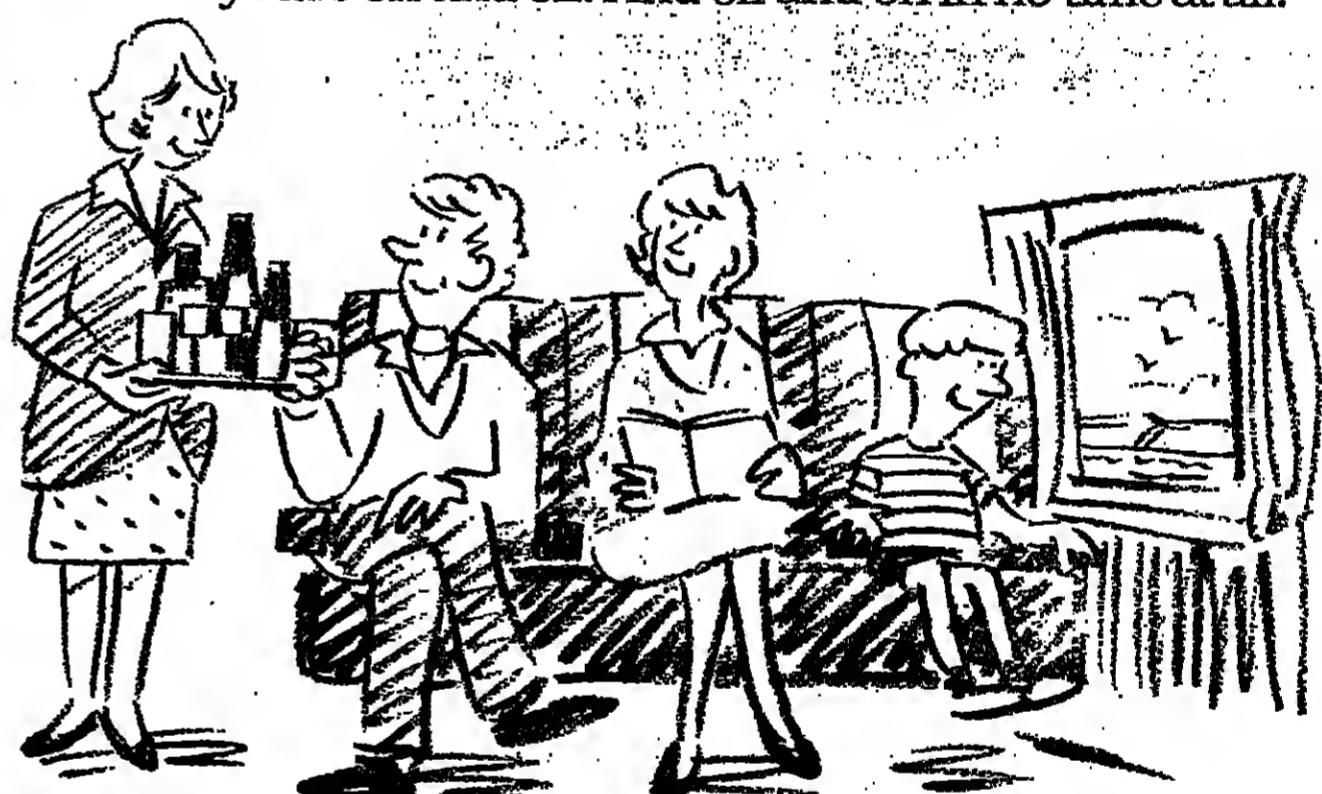
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T/26/5/84

grey, in 150

**Robin Young presents a gastronomic guide to the restaurants of Boulogne and Calais**

## A diet sheet for the Channel hopper

Word has got about that you can eat better in France, and cheaper too. Every week, hundreds of people are taking day trips in France with a lunch not as the centrepiece of the excursion. On my last three visits to restaurants in Boulogne and Calais, British customers outnumbered the French by 28 to three (*La Charlotte, Boulogne*, 45 to eight (*La Matelote, Boulogne*) and 54 to 26 (*Le Channel, Calais*)).

And that was not counting the disappointments – no less than six parties of Britons turned away by *La Charlotte* because they arrived after 1pm with no reservations, and a party of four turned away by *La Matelote* even though they had not only booked by telephone weeks in advance but also rung to confirm the previous night.

Their fate showed how disaster-prone these arrangements can be, and what scant sympathy gastronomic innocents abroad can expect in some of the establishments they are so keen to patronise.

The fiasco at *La Matelote* happened because another British party of four had beaten the telephone-booked group through the door by a matter of minutes. The receptionist, performing her job with more bantam than attention, assumed that one group was the other, and gave the table away.

In such circumstances one might have expected the chanc-

page bottle to be whipped out and accommodating gestures made until another table became free. I drew the staff's attention to the fact that we could vacate ours quite shortly, but they were not interested. Four Britons were summarily returned to the streets of Boulogne at about 1.25pm on a Sunday with their carefully laid lunch plans ruined and poor chances by finding a decent meal anywhere else.

Such disasters will not deter others pursuing pot-luck across the Channel. Here is a day trippers' diet sheet to help them make the right choices and, I hope, avoid disappointment.

I suggest you commute to your lunch table by Hovercraft. On calm, sunny days, of course, nothing beats the appetite as well as a Channel crossing on an open deck, but you cannot rely on the weather, or, sadly, the ferryboats' time-keeping.

Remember that it is an hour later in France than it is in Britain, and aim to be at table by 12.30pm French time. The number of ill-prepared lunch trips that founder on the supposition that lunch-time is the same in both countries is so huge that it is embarrassing.

Given the choice, Boulogne is preferable. It is a more convenient town, and has the edge in both shops and restaurants. But Calais, too, has its fans and provides plenty of shopping and lunching choices.

### BOULOGNE

*La Charlotte*, 11 rue Doyen (off place Dalton), (010 33 21 30 13 08). Closed Saturdays. Booking in advance essential. The staff speak English, although none too willingly. The two tiny rooms, a Parisian vision of romantic rustic chichi with an intimacy that is almost promiscuous, are now actually prettier than the food, which had visibly coarsened a little of late. The menus, at 70Fr or 99Fr, are still likely to take British breath away and there is a world of difference between theme and those of the slapdash neighbours at the Brasserie Alfred, which only looks like a good restaurant of the more traditional variety and is not recommended. *La Charlotte's* moussettes and sorbets are specialities; fish is usually better than meat.

*La Liegeoise*, 10 rue Monsigny (010 33 21 31 6115). Closed Fridays. Booking necessary.

Boulogne's most radically improved restaurant, Alain Del-pierre, the young chef, is an audacious experimentalist in nouvelle cuisine, especially with fish; witness for example his sausage of sole and salmon served with tagliatelle, or fillet of turbot with grapefruit on a bed of spinach. Do not make the mistake of missing the

voluminous desserts. There are menus at 82Fr, 125Fr or 190Fr, for six delectable courses. The décor, with coral-pink napery and ported palms, is fairly staid, but the service generally charming. The local clientèle is mostly businessmen, so the atmosphere should suit men of affairs and some imagination.

*La Mintelote*, 80 boulevard Ste-Beuve (opposite the casino), (010 33 21 30 1797). Closed Tuesdays. And for the second half of June. Perhaps you should write as well as phone, to ensure that they note your name correctly. Geographically reckoned to offer Boulogne's best cooking. The room is elegant, light, pastel yellow, and luxuriously appointed, the service adept but a bit stiff. The wine list is certainly the best in town. Meaus are from 90Fr during the week, but 140Fr at weekends, and might include langoustines with mousse of courgette; breast of duck with caramelized peaches; beef with morel mushrooms; or mint sorbet with chocolate sauce and ginger biscuit. This is the place for those to whom money is least important, and for large celebratory parties on special occasions. Bookings for eight or more are, one must hope, less likely to go astray than those for smaller numbers.

*Le Welsh Pub*, 28 place Dalton (010 33 21 31 5131). Closed Mondays and mid-September to mid-October. Bookings unlikely to be taken seriously.

Boulogne's best brasserie,

briskly serving teeming plates of fruits de mer, ciboulette, guacamole, and Welsh rarebit (made with beer) which is a local speciality. There are menus at 80Fr during the week, 95Fr on Sundays. Upstairs is a bit quieter than the crowded ground floor, but the only way to be sure of room is to get in early. This is a good place for simple seafood lovers, family

parties and day-trip shoppers who want an authentic French meal without devoting their day to it.

*Hostellerie de la Rivière*, Pont des Briques (010 33 21 32 2281). Closed Mondays and throughout August. Five kilometres from the hoverport and town, but manageable for motorists or those willing to take a taxi. It is

also worth the effort because it has recently gained a Michelin star and has definitely replaced the unreliable *Alaotra* at Wimereux as the out-of-town resort for the gastronomic Boulois. Recommended specialities include *foie gras* with apples and turnips in cider, fish in sweet-pepper sauce; lobster consommé with sardine croutons; passionfruit sorbet with raspberries steeped in pink champagne; and fresh peach soufflé. *Foie gras* is also sold to take away. At a test meal only the bread was less than superb. The place for the galloping gourmets for whom only the best will suffice. Plan to spend at least 2½ hours over lunch. It is really worth it.

### CALAIS

*Le Channel*, 3 boulevard de la Résistance (on the seafront) (010 33 21 34 4230). Closed Tuesdays. Bustling convivial and authentically French with its red plush tapestry upholstery, although it has had a devoted English following for many years now. The kitchen is in open view of the dining room, so there are no secrets here about the salmon with sorrel, monkfish with green peppercorn, confit of goose or poached turbot with hollandaise sauce. Fish is more strongly represented than meat, but the desserts are the most limited department. Menus at 60Fr or 90Fr are fair value and will suit families or office parties, but they have to keep a sharper eye these days on the competition next door (see below).

*La Sole Meunière*, 1 boulevard de la Résistance (next door to the above) (010 33 21 34 4301). Closed Tuesdays and for the third week of June. Has recently

undergone a sea-change with menu from at least as 42.50Fr and dishes as fishily original as fish ciboulette, fish couscous, and clam quiche. They also make an effort with the desserts, such as profiteroles with lime and raspberry sauce. Will admirably suit followers of *Le Channel* who are now willing to try something else.

*La Diligence*, 4 rue Edmond Roche in Calais-Nord (connected to the Hôtel Meurice) (010 33 21 96 4068). Closed Wednesdays. Booking highly advisable. Has now replaced the restaurant of the *Hôtel Sauvage* as the most adventurous in Calais. M. Senard, the chef, dabbles in sauces – for example, Roquefort; pepper and whisky; olive; orange; and honey and vinegar. These accompany, respectively, veal, steak, duckling, lamb, and sole. The meals are light, the tables a bit confined and the service amateurish, but for admirers of nouvelle cuisine this is currently the best Calais has to offer.

*Le Moulin à Poivre*, 10 rue Neuve (near the crossing of the four principal boulevards in Calais-Sud) (010 33 21 96 2232). Closed Sundays and Mondays and the first half of August. A piece of imitation fin-de-siècle kitsch, but the food is more genuine than the décor. Scallops with leeks, monkfish in Beaujolais, duckling in mandarin and game dishes in season enliven the repertoire. A la carte

meal from about 120Fr. A jolly place for office parties and shopping groups willing to experiment a little.

The last resort for those without bookings is:

*Taunets*, 57 rue Royale (010 33 21 34 6418). Closed Mondays. Has seats for 200 and a brisk tourist menu from as little as 40Fr, but is best for fresh shellfish and generous plateaux of fruits de mer.

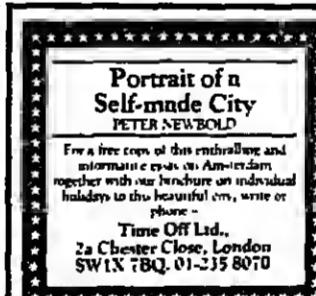
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ABTA ATOL 265

## Knockdown prices as operators struggle to fill seats

### TRAVEL NEWS

A glut of air-charter seats to sunny European destinations is producing an increasing number of special offers from tour operators.

Thomas Cook has made an unusual deal with British Airways, the charter subsidiary of British Airports, under which it has bought up 18,000 seats released back to the airline by other operators and is now selling them through all its high-street branches. Thomas Cook quotes fares as low as £89 return on some flights to Athens and has been advertising flights to some Mediterranean destinations for only £49 return.

Jetsave retaliated this week by announcing a flat-rate return fare of £49 (plus £11 airport taxes) to all its European destinations throughout the summer on avo seats still unsold within seven days of departure. Among the routes on which this offer applies is the 1,800-mile flight from Gatwick to Tenerife; that gives a rate of only 1.6p per mile.

An indication of the surplus capacity on charter flights comes from Viking International, a leading air-broking company, which says that while about 14 million aircraft seats are on offer to tour operators this year, only about 8 million passengers are likely to take an air package.

### Fuelling caution

Package holidays next winter could be surcharged if hostilities in the Middle East result in an increase in the cost of aeroplane fuel. Most leading tour operators already exclude cost increases caused by government action from their no-surcharge guarantees, but Horizon, in its winter 1984-85 programme published this week, is the first to extend its exclusion clause to cover the possibility of conflict in the Middle East. Other mass-market operators are likely to follow suit.

Horizon's 1984-85 prices to Malta and Morocco are down by about 10 per cent compared with last winter. But Spanish holidays will be up by about 7 per cent on average, because after two to three years of buoyant business from the United Kingdom, Spanish hoteliers have seen an opportunity to push up their prices.

### Safe packages

Tighter consumer protection on air-based package holidays is being urged by leading tour operators. Members of the Tour Operators' Study Group, which accounts for about 70 per cent of the package business, have told Sir Peter Lane, who is investigating protection for holidaymakers on behalf of the Government, that the licensing of tour operators by the Civil Aviation Authority should be extended to cover all types of air-package holiday.

At present the authority's licensing and bonding system covers all charter-based holidays but only some of those which use scheduled flights. The tour operators argue that there is so much confusion over which of the latter legally need to be licensed that they should all be brought into the authority's safety net.

### Cut-price cabin

The Danish shipping company DFDS Seaways has come up with a special deal for passengers

on its ferry route from Harwich to Cuxhaven, in West Germany. Four passengers with a car will qualify for a total round-trip fare of £249 from June 6 to June 19 and £299 from June 20 to August 19. That includes accommodation in a four-bed cabin.

### Family favours

Enterprise and Flair, two tour-operating companies run by British Airways, are to make available "thousands" of free holidays to children between July and October (including the school-holiday period). Two full-fare paying adults will be able to take one child between the ages of two and 11 free of charge for a one or two-week holiday; a 60 per cent discount will apply to a second child.

### Jeanesse dorée

French Railways (SNCF) is offering a 50 per cent reduction to people under 26 travelling at offpeak times between June 1 and September 30. Young travellers can buy a "Carte Jeune" for £10.50, which entitles them to half-price travel on any rail route in France, with the bonus of a free couchette (normal price £6.10) for an overnight journey. SNCF has also introduced the "Carte Jeune" for the same age group, offering a 50 per cent or 20 per cent discount, according to the date of travel, on four single journeys made during 1984. SNCF, 179 Piccadilly, London W1 (01-409 1224).

### Belfast bargain

Low-cost charter flights from Belfast to New York are being introduced next month by American Airplan in conjunction with Air National, a United States airline. Flights will operate weekly from June 12 until September 18 at £231.

Philip Ray

return, including airport tax. Information from American Airplan, Walton-on-Thames, on 0932 246166.

### Riding high

Tours to Los Angeles to take in the equestrian events at the Olympic Games are being organized by Abercrombie & Kent in conjunction with the Horse Trials Support Group. There are three separate tours departing on July 27 or August 3. Prices start at £895, including scheduled flight and hotel accommodation but excluding tickets for the Olympics events. Information from Abercrombie & Kent, 42 Sloane Street, London SW1 (01-235 8556).

Philip Ray

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3 June Toulouse Paris £199 £229

4 June Paris Paris £199 £229

BY COACH FROM LONDON

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3 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

4 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

5 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

6 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

7 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

8 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

9 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

10 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

11 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

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14 June Andorra Paris £199 £229

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## IN THE GARDEN

## Window on a flower bed in miniature

Window boxes are the only way some gardeners have of producing colour-in-their surroundings. Many people have no garden or any other place where they can grow plants, but there are few situations where it is not possible to erect a window box.

Safety of the passerby is paramount, so window boxes must be securely fixed to the sill. The weight of the box will not keep it fixed to the sill, and a window box falling only a few feet can injure anyone who may be passing at that time. Simple brackets are all that is needed; you can make these yourself or have them made for you.

Boxes already in situ are ready to be worked upon now, as spring bedding has died back and bulbs or plants can be removed. It is not necessary to change the compost in the window boxes each year, but you should freshen it up to give it some body to sustain plant growth over the summer. I recommend a complete change of soil every three or four years, and the use of soilless composts makes this a less onerous task than it used to be. Soilless composts are light and easy to work; they are also fortified with plant foods.

To freshen up the compost, remove about one third of the bulk, add fresh compost to the box, mix it with the compost left and water a little before planting.

The addition of a good general-purpose fertilizer mixed into the compost after watering ensures a good start for the plants.

When choosing plants for the summer bear in mind that, although colour is vital, the use of foliage and form adds to any display of this kind. Some plants should hang or trail while others are needed to give height without going so far as to take light from the room. The colour of the box must be considered and this depends upon the colour of the paintwork or the brick or stone-work. Soft colours obviously make the best background.

Window boxes are usually planted from plants in pots or trays. The most important principle to remember is never to plant a dry pot. Dry soil in a pot restricts the roots which are very rarely able to break out from their dry root ball into the soil around. Water all plants before they are moved and allow them to drain a little before attempting to plant.

Aspects play a big part in the selection of plants. Sun-lovers need a southern or western aspect, but the opposite applies to plants which suffer if exposed to hot sunny conditions for too long. Plan accordingly.

Planting close together to give bulk straight away is not the answer for window boxes as plants must be given room to grow. Good-quality plants are essential; it is easier to get away than they think and they go back to the sort that will withstand bashing but end up looking scruffy.

Most young families, with many other demands on their income, take the disposable view of luggage. If it gets ruined en route it is less painful if it has cost £20 rather than £200 and Henry's have some attractive, if predictable, nylon canvas ranges from Taiwan, as do most of the chain stores. Prices are around £32 for a 26in case.

A more interesting range is one exclusive to Henry's called Zippo. Designed and made in Italy in grey parachute nylon and vinyl-coated canvas, with a rubberized look (the fashion of the moment in luggage) it has some well-considered features.

One suitcase in the range has a removable internal "floor", so that the case folds flat for storage. It costs £65 and there is a matching tote bag with a base which unzips to give twice the capacity for the present-laden return journey (£63.95). A matching holdall costs £39.95 and all are trimmed with red stitching.

At the prestige end of the luggage range nobody pays any attention to practicality. There are no wheels or heavy, up-market cases for they still travel in a world peopled by porters and chauffeurs. They are made of the finest leathers and suedes as their mode of travel is car and private plane.

Watering after planting is essential, as boxes get very little natural rain and need water regularly. So long as boxes are well drained it will be difficult to give too much water but they do not like waterlogged soil.

**Ashley Stephenson**



## Snowdrop tree

The eye-catching snowdrop tree is not seen very often in this country. Of the two species most commonly grown, *Halesia monticola* and *Halesia carolina*, the former is much more of a tree, but both have beautiful blossoms.

*Halesia* likes a moist but well-drained soil, preferably on the light or sandy side, although they do well in all but heavy clay. Classed as hardy, they will tolerate our climate reasonably well, but grow very slowly if planted in exposed positions.

Select a position where the plant gets some protection from cold

winds, making sure that the site is not in a frost hollow and there is no suggestion of bad drainage. Ideally it should be an open site on a south-westerly slope so the plant gets the benefit of the sun for as long as possible. *Halesia* will accept a little shade, but heavy shade restricts their flowering. They do not respond well to being planted beneath mature trees.

As you would expect from the name, the pendulous flowers of the snowdrop tree, which are carried in May, roughly resemble snowdrops. *Halesia carolina* is a large, spreading shrub rather than a small tree. Some specimens will reach over 20ft tall in this country, but the exceptions. In its native North America it will reach twice this height. *Halesia monticola*, on the other hand, is a tree rather than a shrub. In North America it will reach 100ft tall.

Flowers are borne on shoots of last year's wood which are not yet fully leafed. There are three to three to five blossoms. Provided the weather is not hot and dry, they last for a few weeks in flower.

Plants are propagated by seed or by layers, but seed can be difficult to obtain and both methods are often best left to experts. Plants are available from Hilliers of Winchester and will cost not less than £15 each.

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Every traveller should have bags of personality - that is easily identified, impossible to damage and capable of holding everything for every occasion from babyfood to a portable office, in one manageable package.

Such is the ideal, dreamed of by adventure-seekers, holiday-makers and executive jet-setters. The reality is that there have been very few developments in luggage styles since the suitcase and the expanding flight bag replaced the Paddington Bear suitcase.

"Luggage buying goes in cycles", says Jouonthao Faulkner, third-generation owner of the leather specialists Henry's, which has branches in Regent Street, Knightsbridge and Golders Green, London.

"People get fed up with spending a lot on beautiful but expensive luggage that gets ruined at airports, so they buy cheap cases they can throw away. Those fall apart sooner than they think and they go back to the sort that will withstand bashing but end up looking scruffy."

There is an enormous range of plants to use, but those which grow too tall are not suitable. Trailing plants can be green or flowers depending on what you use as ground-cover plants. Lobelia is a great favourite. *Helichrysum petiolaratum* has grey foliage, and green or variegated ivies are good plants. Fuchsias with a pendant habit are excellent, as are trailing begonias, and ivy-leaved pelargoniums in the right situation will flower all summer.

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**Ashley Stephenson**

Above: Stamped calf briefcase with overnight "saddlebag" to fit over it. In tan or black, £35, by Loewe.

Top right: Aviator flight bag (right), £160; executive briefcase, £28; fitted tie-holder from main bag compartment (apron bag left), £16.50. By Tula et Harmonie.

Far right: The original Colombian Tula bag in brown leather, by Tula, £60, at Fenwicks.

Below: Waterproof cotton canvas briefcase shoulder bag in blue and green by Loewe, £32. Satchel with see-through front pockets, £31, and A4 document bag, £26; both by Ki in checked plastic.

replaced the iron-hooped and domed trunks used until then by adventurous stage-coach travellers. In 1896 Louis's son Georges, in an attempt to confound imitators, started to make the trunks in a hand-woven canvas featuring his father's initials against a background of stylized flowers and stars - the first "designer" motif for luggage and still used today on some Vuitton ranges.

However, the initials-on-everything vogue is fading. It is no longer stylish to have luggage, or anything else, loudly proclaiming the maker. The only permissible initials are subtly embossed as a single decorative motif, rather than an obvious logo.

"Our customers like their luggage to be discreet", says Enrique Gonzalez, manager of Loewe in Old Bond Street. Owners of Loewe luggage do not need to boast, the quality does it for them. I have never felt such superb leathers.

They come from Spain, where Enrique Loewe started selling hand-made leather goods in Madrid in 1846. Many of the

company's leatherworkers are third-generation craftsmen who still use the same tools their grandfathers used. They work not only with the hands but with the heart as well", says Mr Gonzalez, making it sound like a quote from Lorca.

Certainly the workmanship is magnificent. A trunk covered in softest milk chocolate suede and lined with rosewood is £800 and there is a range of matching

pieces down to the ultimate answer to the plastic carrier bag - a simple shopper in the same suede at £15.

But Loewe recognize that they have young customers, too, and they have an attractive range of holdalls and sports bags in royal blue, plasticized cotton canvas trimmed with an emerald green stripe at prices from £32 to £42.

The types of luggage which

## DRINK

## Californian Cabernets avoid the copycat approach

To most people, Martha's Vineyard is that exclusive island just south of Cape Cod and Boston, where rich East-Coast Americans spend their summer vacations. To the wine world, however, Martha's Vineyard has come to mean only one thing: the equally exclusive West-Coast Cabernet Sauvignon of Joe Heitz. The grapes come from a vineyard owned by Tom and Martha May (hence the wine's confusing name), just south of Oakville in the Napa Valley - California's answer to the Médoc. Despite its enviable reputation as America's most celebrated red wine, with bottles exchange bands at first-growth-claret prices, Martha's Vineyard was planted only in 1962, and 1966 was the first commercial vintage.

After that he took a graduate degree and during the next decade became quality controller for several leading wineries, a job which the exacting Mr Heitz's wife Alice accused him of being "too darned pernickety" over. He went to teach oenology at Fresno State College for three years before finally setting up his own winery in 1961 with an impressive 17 years worth of wine-making under his belt.

For a man who says that he "got into the wine business by accident - my dream was to be a vet", Joe Heitz has done

remarkably well. But there can be few Californian wine men who can claim the same training and experience. After two years studying animal science, he "got a job at night" in the Italian Swiss Colony winery in Fresno, before going on to take a four-year course in oenology at Davis, California's leading wine school.

Avoiding a copycat approach was probably Joe Heitz's wisest move. I find the taste of his Martha's Vineyards quite unlike that of any other Cabernet Sauvignon. Their hallmarks appear to be an enormous, deep-purple colour backed up by an equally big, rich, spicy taste, with an intriguing touch of mint coming through. Mr Heitz reckons that they are just "classic Napa Valley Cabernet", but he agrees that their long time in wood and bottle (they get almost four years in cask) gives them added distinction.

At a recent tasting in London

the stunning 1974 Heitz Martha's Vineyard, with its glorious minty and cinnamon-like taste, easily came first.

Unfortunately, this wine is not available in Britain, and even in the United States now costs around \$100 a bottle. Voted unanimously into second place above the 1975 vintage, which the Californians have always rated higher - was the 1976 Heitz Martha's Vineyard. With its deep-purple colour, big, fruity bouquet and a rich, tannic taste, this wine definitely needs more time yet, but it will be magnificent. It is available from Adnams, Sole Bay Brewery, Southwold, Suffolk, at £16.50, or The Wine Studio, 19 Eccleston Street, London SW1, £28.75.

In third place was the 1978 Heitz Martha's Vineyard (Adnams £34.44, The Wine Studio £25.50), again a really deep, dark purple in colour, with a much more pronounced fruit

nose, reminiscent of cassis and mint, and a rich, beefy taste.

In addition to the Heitz Martha's Vineyards, everyone at the tasting was very impressed with the 1977 Heitz Bella Oaks (made from the grapes of the Bella Oaks vineyard), again a good California Cabernet year. This 1977 had the same richness and depth as the Martha's Vineyards but a much more perfumed bouquet and a lovely, rich, grassy elegant style - as it should, at the price. (Les Amis du Vin, 51 Chiltern Street, London W1, £27, The Wine Studio, £28.75).

If the thought of paying first-growth-claret prices for an American wine appeals to you, then try the 1978 Heitz Napa. Its strong eucalyptus and mint smell and rich, beefy taste make it a bargain for a Heitz wine at £12.50 (The Wine Studio).

Jane MacQuitty

## Angela Gore

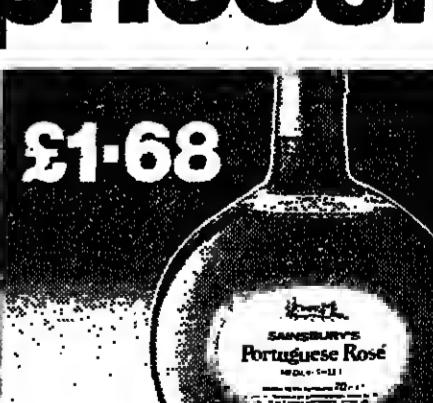


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## FAMILY LIFE

## Return to the steam age for a tonic in the country

However devout you are to your children, there are times when you yearn (there is no other word for it) to put as much distance as you can between yourself and demands for socks and supper, help with homework and even, God forgive you, a simple chat about life.

Occasionally you may manage the break-hut in to a car, on to a train or a plane and disappear. It was in just such circumstances that we found ourselves heading west out of London last week. Destination a well-recommended hotel in Devon with "magnificent views over the Salcombe estuary", emperor-sized double beds and room service.

Twenty-four hours after our arrival I was reminded of yet another essential difference between myself and my partner: I had scarcely begun to relish the luxury of absolute idleness; he was restored and anxious to be up and about exploring the locality. In moment of rare magnanimity (after the bacon, orange juice and third cup of coffee), I agreed to a little drive. Four hours and 120 miles later, I wished I had stuck to my guns.

On day three we agreed to concentrate on one area, the Dart Valley, or at least as much of it as we could comfortably take in one day. And because we have a family and part of my job is to try out possible family outings, we did so with the family in mind.

We began our outing at Buckfastleigh, arriving at the Dart Valley Railway Station and Steam Centre just in time to board the train.

We sat in an original Great Western Railway carriage, deeply upholstered, with its leather, awed window-straps and faded sepia photographs of local beauty spots as they were before leprosy seaside architecture disfigured them. Then we hung out of the window, as did most of the other passengers, as much to smell and be enveloped by the steam as to take in the picturesque views of the River Dart.

By the time we reached Totnes, where the engine was uncoupled and shunted to the front of the train for the return journey, the schoolchildren were hooked, scrambling down banks to take photographs of the train, quizzing the driver, touching, probing, asking numerous questions. "It's always the same", Barry Cogar, manager of the railway, said. "I

Perfect piece: Buckfast Abbey, rebuilt this century

our next stop! although their devotion is to a different God, and their dedication total. Visitors here were comparatively thin on the ground, mostly elderly couples, some of whom were in the abbey shop, purchasing the tonic wine with which the name Buckfast is almost synonymous. We made straight for the abbey church, whose very existence is little short of a miracle.

Founded in 1018, Buckfast, like so many British and European abbeys, has known its fair share of vicissitudes: it suffered under Henry VIII's dissolution order and subsequently fell into almost total ruin. Today it stands solid as a rock, a monument to the vision of Abbot Ascar Vonier who was largely responsible for a total rebuilding programme started in 1907 and completed in 1937. As we were told: "No other monastery has been

rebuilt largely in its original form, within a single lifetime... it now seems impossible that a team of no more than six monks could have completed the work, especially as only one... had any experience as a mason."

In spite of the commercialisation for tourists of this working abbey, with shops selling beeswax and tonic wine and the (in my opinion) less attractive paraphernalia of the Roman Catholic Church, the visit is well worth making, if only to sit in the church. An additional attraction, an exhibition of the history of the monks at Buckfast, will be opening in the crypt soon.

Our last visit that day was to Dartington Hall, the school much in the news recently, and its gardens, which I had heard were among the most beautiful in England. As we entered the fourteenth-century courtyard we were advised that, as this was for many a place of work, visitors should neither behave in a rowdy fashion nor enter any building but the Great Hall. Only a philistine would transgress, so self-assured and tranquil is the environment.

Outside in the magnificent gardens, with their tilyard, "sunny border", azalea dell, rhododendron walk, camellia walk and "twelve apostles" (a row of Irish yews, possibly planted to shield childish eyes from a bear-baiting pit), the only sound was of birds and the steady drip of rain. For us, an amateur gardener and an architect, used to the confinement of London, this was the high point of the day.

There are many more outings to be made if you happen to find yourself in or near the Dart Valley. We should have liked to have visited the Dartmoor Wildlife Park.

Judy Froshaug

The Dart Valley Railway has two lines: Buckfastleigh-Totnes return and Peighton-Kingswear. Trains run daily during the summer months. For further information, telephone 0364 42338 (Buckfastleigh) and 0803 555872 (Totnes). Return fares adult £2.60, child £1.60; single (adult £2.20).

Buckfast Abbey, Buckfastleigh, is open seven days a week. Weekday Messes at 8am and 12.05pm. Sunday 9am-12.00pm, 7.15pm (Holy Days at 10.30am).

Buckfast Hall and its gardens are open daily. Admission free, but donations for upkeep of the gardens welcome.



Letting off steam: Children talk to a driver on the Dart Valley Railway

### SUPERKIDS

Saturday Morning Children's Theatre Club, Stew Theatre, 100 Blenheim Road, London NW1 (388 0031). Today 10.30am-12.30pm, 50p.

Last chance to attend the club for the time being (this was a pilot run), with the full length production of Superkids aerial feature, a talent parade with prizes, and regular features-newsreel, horror spot etc.

### BATTLE BEYOND THE STARS

Children's Cinema Club, The Picturehouse Cinema 2, London EC2 (638 4411). Today 1pm, 2.30pm, children £1.50 adults (with child member) £1.50. Membership £1 per year, 50p for the day.

One of the more popular space adventures on screen, plus a cartoon and a live appearance by Maud Wilkins, alias the Magic Lady.

### SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE INVISIBLE THIEF

Saturday Morning Children's Theatre, Croydon Warehouse Theatre, 62 Dingwall Road, Croydon, CR8 4RS. Today 11am, temporary membership £10, children 70p, adults £1.30.

### Outings

An adventure story for the over-fives presented by Bus Stop, with magic and audience participation.

### THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

Saturday Kids Club, Screen on the Hill, 203 Heverstock Hill, London NW3 (435 3365). Annual membership £10, children £1.25

children, £1.50 adults

Timelike classic which kept closer to the book than most screen adaptations. Directed by Lionel Jeffries.

### SNITCHY TITCH AND BANDICOOT

Little Angel Marionette Theatre,

14 Pagan Passage, Cross Street,

London N1, (226 1787). Today

11am, 3pm, tomorrow 3pm, adults

£1.50, children £1.

Two shows for children aged three to six. Snitchy Titch today is a jungle adventure story presented by Ronnie La Drew. Bandicot tomorrow is Violet Philpot's well-known hero, with glove puppets.

### PETROUCHKA THE PUPPET

Tricycle Theatre, 289 Kilburn High Road, London NW6 (624 5330). Today 2pm, tickets £1.

Based on the eponymous ballet, this is not a puppet show but a show about a puppet. Presented by Watch Theatre, it will appeal mainly to children aged six to nine.

### FRANKIE'S FRIENDS

Bubble Theatre on Blackheath, London SE3 (485 3420). Tomorrow 3pm, tickets £1.25.

Bubble Theatre production at

Blackheath, first leg of their 16-week tour of London parks.

This show by David Holman most suitable for 8-12-year-olds.

### THE CAMERAMAN

Junior NFT, National Film Theatre, South Bank (228 3222). Tomorrow

4pm, adults £2.40, children £1.20.

Non-BFT members welcome if accompanied by child.

A Buster Keaton classic, made for MGM at the end of the maestro's career. Keaton masterminded all

the editing and directing of the film.

## BRIDGE

### Even-handed approach to a parliamentary battle

"We're not favourites this year", the Duke of Atholl said, as I greeted him at the Inn on the Park for the tenth match between the House of Lords and the House of Commons. "I don't mind being outnumbered," he continued, "but some of my key men are missing."

Despite their captain's pessimistic forecast, the upper house had already established a lead of more than 2,000 points when hostilities were suspended for drinks followed by an excellent lunch.

In the morning session, the Lords were totally dominant. Even though they were deprived of the effrontry of Lord Lever's dashing play, they seemed altogether too solid and too experienced for their opponents. But the Commons had their chances, particularly on this spectacular hand:

Rubber duplicate. Love all. Dealer East.

**Hand 1**

♦ K Q 8 7 6	♥ A 9 8 7 6	♦ 10 9 8 7 6	♣ K Q 10 9 8
♦ 5 4 3 2	♥ 10 9 8 7 6	♦ 10 9 8 7 6	♣ 10 9 8 7 6
♦ 10 9 8 7 6	♥ 10 9 8 7 6	♦ 10 9 8 7 6	♣ 10 9 8 7 6
♦ 10 9 8 7 6	♥ 10 9 8 7 6	♦ 10 9 8 7 6	♣ 10 9 8 7 6

North assumed that, an

opening three bid with a part score would indicate greater strength. If must have been a bitter disappointment to him to learn that his side possessed one too few of the necessary complement of aces.

There is an old-fashioned adjunct to the Blackwood convention, rarely played today, which provides for this dilemma. If after the Blackwood response the four no-trumps bidder knows his side is missing two aces, he may, by bidding an unbid suit at the five level, command his partner to bid no-trumps. On this occasion it would not have saved the day, but it would have looked a little more dignified.

The last two rubbers were long and bitterly contested. Perhaps the Commons' numerical superiority eventually became a factor, as they pressed their spirited counter-attack home to achieve an astonishing victory by 430 points. The score in the series is now: Lords 6, House of Commons 4.

The teams were: Declarer made a shrewd decision when she played low from dummy on the opening heart lead, as East unwisely contributed the ♠Q. After winning with the ♠A she played the ♠10, covered by the ♠J and ♠Q, losing to the ♠A. East returned a heart, which went to dummy's ♠V. Declarer cashed the ♠K and played two rounds of diamonds, finishing off her

of diamonds.

**Hand 2**

White, ♠A Karpov, Black,

Duke of Atholl (captain); Lord Glenningham (who, sadly, died on May 13, aged 71); Lord Smiley; Lord Gisborough; and Lord Gainsborough.

The House of Commons Sir Anthony Berry (captain); Kenneth Baker; Sir Peter Emery; Sally Oppenheim; John Silkin; and John Marek.

Jeremy Flint

## CHSS

### Technical triumphs of an incomparable virtuoso

Anatoly Karpov, the world champion, celebrated his thirty-third birthday this week. During his extraordinary career he has contrived to pick up a remarkable number of great victories both in tournament and match chess.

Perhaps his tournament results are the more impressive. No world champion, nor Emanuel Lasker nor Capablanca nor Alekhine, has played in and won so many great tournaments. Alas, we have no means of comparing his results with those of that other remarkable champion, Bobby Fischer, since the American gave up playing the day he won the world title.

Karpov won the world championship by default in 1975 - and who knows what the result of a match between Fischer and him in that year would have been? In the same year Karpov also won first prize in two great tournaments in Yugoslavia at Tjubljana-Portorož and in Italy at Milan.

Thereafter, he had success after success in tournaments in Yugoslavia (Skopje and above all Burgos), in West Germany at Bad Lauterberg and particularly in the Netherlands, in a succession of grandmaster tournaments at Tilburg.

This allows Black to get into a line similar to that mentioned in the last note: more aggressive seems 12 ♠-VS. But, as soon appears, Karpov has a new line of attack in mind.

White, ♠A Karpov, Black, Miles Ruiz Lopez

1. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

2. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

3. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

4. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

5. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

6. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

7. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

8. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

9. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

10. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

11. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

12. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

13. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

14. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

15. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

16. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

17. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

18. ♠A-K, ♠M, ♠N, ♠O, ♠P, ♠Q, ♠R, ♠S, ♠T, ♠U, ♠V, ♠W, ♠X, ♠Y, ♠Z

19

approach  
any day

Classical records of the month

## REVIEW

## Spirit of youthful indiscretion

**Stockhausen:** "Amen gibt das Leben . . ." North German Radio Chorus/Stockhausen, Deutsche Grammophon 410 857-1.  
**Wagner:** Four Peacock Soloists, Berliner Radio Chorus and SO/Sawallisch. Orfeo/Harmonia Mundi S 062833 F.  
**Messiaen:** Trois petites liturgies Granoble musicians/Stéphane Cardon, Forlane/Harmonia Mundi UM 8507.  
**Messiaen:** Turangalîla-Symphonie, Luxembourg Radio SG/Côte de Frontenac, Fortane/Harmonia Mundi UM 8504-5.  
**Krebs:** Ralc/Guitar Works, Mikulka, BIS/Conifer LP 240.

The release of Stockhausen's "Amen gibt das Leben" ("Breathing gives life . . .") has been well timed to coincide with the world premiere in Milan of his opera *Somnast*. For the two are closely linked.

When Stockhausen wrote the first version of "Amen gibt das Leben . . ." in 1974, it was a simple piece for unaccompanied chorus and that was how it was recorded on Deutsche Grammophon 2330 641. But then came a sequence of works in which Stockhausen belatedly discovered he was an opera composer, culminating in 1977 with his embarkation on the seven-day cycle *Licht*, of which *Somnast* is the second "day" to be completed. It was at that stage just before devoting all his energies to *Licht*, that he extended "Amen gibt das Leben . . ." to make it into a "choral opera".

This is the version now recorded; and very welcome it is. The process of expansion included the addition of orchestral colour washes and the emergence of soloists; the piece became dialogue of arias or ensembles, and choruses. But it gained no narrative. Putting together his own text which alludes with typically casual ease to atomic physics and Christian mythology, Stockhausen



Deep breathing: Karlheinz Stockhausen's opera came late

son provides a series of spirit messages for his soloists, to which their companions may react with astonishment, or hilarity.

So we may. Part of the charm of "Amen gibt das Leben . . ." is that its portentousness is funny and its funniness portentous. This is bemusing. By now Stockhausen's world of symbols is almost as rich and inpenetrable as Wagner's, but, like Wagner, his personal commitment to it is uncertain. If "Amen gibt das Leben . . ." were intended seriously, it would be a bore. As it is, one neither laughs nor yawns, but listens, and listens to some of Stockhausen's most strange and exciting inventions.

Pursuing the comparison with Wagner might well lead

one to suggest a link between "Amen gibt das Leben . . ." and *Die Feen* – not because the two works have remotely similar subjects, but simply because both were firsts. Stockhausen's was the first work he called an opera; Wagner's was the first opera he completed. And just as "Amen gibt das Leben . . ." looks forward to later Wagner, in particular to *Lohengrin* and *Tannhäuser*.

If it does so more conspicuously than does the much more sophisticated *Rienzi*, that is probably because Wagner was here dealing with a similar world of natural and supernatural beings. And for every forecast of his mature self he

Paul Griffiths

## When Hamlet and Ophelia lived happily ever after

**Thomas: Hamlet**  
Sutherland/Milnes, WNO  
Orchestra/Bonyngue,  
Decca 410 184-1 DH 3. Cassette  
410 184-4 DH 2.  
**Verdi: Rigoletto**  
Field/Davies/Rawsley, ENO  
Orchestra/Elder, HMV SLS 2700  
323. Cassette TC SLS 2700 325

One of the arias is *The Art of the Prima Donza*, the double album which set Joan Sutherland firmly on the high road to fame, was "Ophelia's" "Mad Scene" from *Hamlet*, a quarter of a century later. Dame Joao returns to Ambrosio Thomas's opera, the whole of it, and with the exception of a slightly pinched high note here and there she still gets her voice around the jangling coloratura of the role.

The aria was sung as a tribute to Dame Nellie Melba, who was in the habit of closing Thomas's fairly leisurely treatment of Shakespeare at the moment when Ophelia goes mad, with "Partagez mes fleurs". The audience was thus deprived of the final act. Dame Nellie was effectively thumbing her nose at Shakespeare, and there are those who claim that Thomas did the same.

Indeed the composer, long-time director of the Paris Conservatoire in the last century, wrote a number of different endings for his opera, including one in which, according to Decca's comprehensive booklet, Ophelia and Hamlet remain alive and are married with the Ghost's blessing. In the Decca version Richard Bonynge, who throughout maintains excellent control of



Two notable Ophelias: Dame Nellie Melba (left) and Dame Joan Sutherland

the Welsh National Opera forces, devises his own close, in which Hamlet runs Claudius through and then dies on Ophelia's bier.

Thomas has, of course, suffered the derision of posterity. But recently there has been a revival of interest in *Hamlet* in places as far apart as San Diego, Buxton and Sydney.

With it comes a reminder that the opera is not merely a vehicle for canarying by Ophelia, but also carries a marvellous part for the baritone in the title role.

Titta Ruffo made it famous on record, and so in a lesser way, did Souzay. Sherrill Milnes here sings with a fine, un-Shakespearian swagger: his attack in the score's most haunting number, "O vin, dissipe la

tristesse", as Hamlet orders the players to begin, is a delight to hear.

The composer is at his best in such set pieces: brindises, waltz songs, marches, fanfares. When it comes to writing music for the villains, or for the supernatural, he is less assured.

Despite the efforts of James Morris, Claudius comes over as an ineffectual role, and Barbara Conradi's Gertrude sounds ugly.

The best of the supporting singing is provided by Costa Winbergh as Laertes and John Tomlinson as the Ghost. All in all, though, an intriguing issue.

Tomlinson plays another spectral figure supremely well in the month's other major set, Sparafucile in the English National Opera Rigoletto. With

John Higgins

## OUT AND ABOUT

## Salty tales of a Scots seafaring heritage

Captain David Peace, aged 96, went to sea from Aberdeen at the turn of the century on sailing ships "when the worst meal was dinner". Australian boiled mutton. We called it Harriet Lane. She was a lady of easy virtue, a mistress to two brothers, who was murdered and dismembered when she threatened to tell their wives."

This ancient mariner from Kirkwall, in the Orkneys told the meaty tale when he visited the recently opened Aberdeen Maritime museum, visited by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother on Thursday.

The museum was proposed before Captain Peace retired from Shell Tanker 40 years ago. Other visitors have identified with exhibits just as readily, although none can challenge his assertion that the clipper Thermopylae, built in 1868, beat the Cutty Sark across the oceans. A model and description in the entrance hall recall her transworld routes.

"I remember seeing women standing in rows, 20 or 30 of them, gutting herrings in split seconds," remembered a younger man standing beside a life-sized display of a woman packing the fish in a salted barrel.

Donald Smith, aged 42, has made and repaired models in the museum. "This 48ft Aberdeen lifeboat model was made in 1972 – I knew all the crew," he told a party of schoolchildren. The enthusiasm of teachers has resulted in bookings until 1985.

Graham Smart, administrative assistant, said: "Aberdonians have waited generations to show off their maritime history. We want to give the public an impression of our past. They can watch helicopters over the North Sea flight path, glimpse rigs off the coast, tour fish auctions at dawn and admire the eighteenth-century pilot building."

There is a mock-up of shipowner Duthie's office, complete with Lloyd's registers from the 1880s in the bookcase and a ceiling-high model of the Murchison production platform from the same decade, donated by Conoco. A second (working) model of Marathon's Bras "A" platform, which cost £1m, has been given to the museum.

Oil workers have come to inspect the display panels and the audio-visual material on oil production, and to pick faults. These are negligible. Research on the displays began when the museum was given the go-ahead by the Labour council some four years ago.

Provost Ross's House, where the museum is housed, is the city's oldest building. It was built in 1593, but named after an eighteenth-century merchant with substantial shipping interests. From the windows the views are of maritime activity – vessels loading up for the Shetlands and for the North Sea. 25,000 men are working offshore.

Aberdonians have not begrimed the museum. Its treasures in a dozen rooms the museum provides a continuous

sum: a primary school raised £2,150 for a model of the Pori Jackson, the only four-masted barque built in Aberdeen. The Scottish Tourist Board gave £73,000.

This is just the first phase. "We hope to start a feasibility study on phase two shortly, to open in a church next door," said Graham Smart. "We've nowhere to put a 14ft yawl, a 28ft lifeboat, or the steam engine of the Explorer, a 1956 Fisheries Research Vessel, which is lying at Inverkeithing. It's about to be broken up. We'd love to save her."

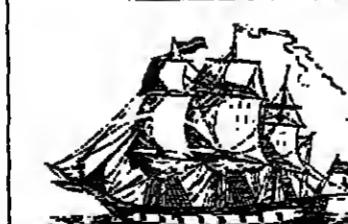
Ethusiasm is breeding related activities. Tours have started, taking walkers around the harbour, superyacht base, shipbuilding yards and fish processing plants. On July 28 the city will have its first fish festival with public auctions, and displays of filleting and cooking.

Next year the Aberdeen Art Gallery, the fifth most visited tourist venue in Scotland, celebrates its centenary. A new souvenir industry is growing up around the museum – ships' models, wooden net-nets and replica scrimshaw.

The Queen Mother was presented by the city with a model of the Scottish Maid, the first clipper schooner with the Aberdeen bow (sloped far forward) which cut sharply through the water: a fine vessel which raised Aberdeen's standing in shipbuilding when Queen Victoria was newly on the throne.

Ann Hills

## VESSEL FOR SALE.



To be Sold by Public Roppe,  
WIRRAL LTD.  
COURT-ROOM, ARBROATH,  
On Saturday, 14th Oct. 1984,  
At One o'clock Afternoon.

Making sale: Detail of a nineteenth-century advertisement

display, from the earliest days of the harbour, through whaling, shipbuilding, the height of the herring trade, the 1870s to steamers and wrecks.

Aberdeen imported tea from China, coal from Australia, nitrates from South America, and dispatched missionaries to the Pacific. Near home are sections on boats which sailed to the Isles or piled the London passage, which took 36 hours until the 1960s.

Aberdonians have not

grimed the museum. Its treasures in a dozen rooms the museum provides a continuous

jolted offerings have been abundant from paintings of the steaming fishing fleets by Hargrave, to documents and herring aprons. The city's own collections have been taken out of mothballs. There is a whaling harpoon gun which was converted in the last century to fire out lifelines for rescues.

The National Trust for Scotland has leased the house to the city at a reasonable rent.

The costs of £280,000 were shared and nearly half were

raised by a museum appeal. The oil industry gave a considerable

share, and nearly half were

raised by a museum appeal. The oil industry gave a considerable

## Compelling fruits of confidence

Beethoven: The Early String Quartets Melos Quartet, Deutsche Grammophon 110 971-1 (3 discs). Dieskau/Brendel, Philips 6514384 Cassette 7337 384. CD 41 421-2. Schubert: Symphony No 9 Tennstedt/Berlin Phil. EMI ASD 1426621.

If this review is turning into a catalogue of youthful indiscretions, it is helped on its way by the two Messiaen works, both exultantly young and splendidly, sublimely indiscreet. Only an artist of Messiaen's awesome naivety could get away with the mix of sex and religion, vulgarity and wonder in his *Trois petits liturgies* and *Turangalîla-symphony*, two major works of the 1940s.

A new recording of the liturgies was badly needed, and if this one seems on the slow side, it is slow with Messiaen's patience and humility, not ponderous. It also has claims to authenticity, having been recorded in the Messiaen Hall in the composer's home town, and in his presence. The Luxembourg performance of the *Turangalîla-symphony* also bears his seal of approval. This is a more frequently recorded piece, but the new version has the advantage of Yvonne Loriod's glittering piano and Jeanne Loriod's succulent Ondrej Marinov with all the immediacy of digital sound.

Sound quality is also a notable feature of the latest record by the Czech guitarist Vladimir Mikulka. Not being a particular admirer of the guitar, I was delighted to have my prejudices overcome by an artist who makes one instantly forget his instrument: one hears only marvellous sounds of extraordinary range, fashioned into the most beautiful and intelligent phrases.

Paul Griffiths

This confidence allows them to take risks: fast is just about as fast as anyone dares with the first F major work springing forward with the real excitement of a new beginning; and the last, B flat major quartet suspending time itself in the slow movement. Every note tells, and nowhere more compellingly than in the C minor quartet, yet each one breathes proportion.

Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau's latest Schubert recital is not, on the other hand, the offering of an artist in his prime. The obvious vocal sea-changes are now too obvious and too well-charged to be taken for granted: what we have here is a superb matching of vocal artis to accompanist.

Fischer-Dieskau and Brendel have chosen songs of solitude, of night, and of wandering. For the singer, that white, resigned tone which was so revolting in his *Winterreise* is now turned to Goethe's Harper's Songs. For the pianist, his time spent recently with late Schubert and Liszt has clearly fed his perceptions, too, in these strange, numb songs with their spare keyboard resonances.

"Life in all fibres, colour in the finest shading, significance everywhere." It could almost be a description of Klaus Tennstedt's particular musicianship; but it was, in fact, Schumann's praise of Schubert's Great C major Symphony which Tennstedt has just recorded with the Berlin Philharmonic. Compared with Karajan's recording with the same orchestra, Tennstedt's is less stern, less ferociously

His comparatively gentle phrasing and tender accompanying of soloists makes the first two movements most beguiling, but it works to less good effect in the last two. For all its richness and majesty, this reading lacks just the sizzling energy, the glinting rhythmic definition it requires to be truly great in its own right.

It was Schumann's advocacy of Brahms, too, that welcomed him in his First Symphony; and if you think you knew what that was all about, then listen to Gunther Wand's long-awaited reading. Its wholesomeness makes this performance one of the most entirely satisfying of any currently available. The last movement is extraordinarily revelatory: with an instinctive breathing and with no short cuts, it prepares, poises and places the great melody and the chorale as each one returns with a justness and sureness which make its progress both inevitable and also comprehensible as if for the first time.

Hilary Finch

## GALLERIES

## THE WEEK



Tender years: "The Gower Family" by George Romney, in Bond Street next week

## Poignant progeny of a past master

Has history treated the painter George Romney unfairly? He was admired during his lifetime (1734-1802), but after his death came, if not then, happily this month also sees the release of the Melos Quartet's first new Beethoven box: the Op 18 quartets played not only with all the instinctive empathy one would expect from a group approaching its twentieth birthday, but also with a deeply assimilated assurance.

This confidence allows them to take risks: fast is just about as fast as anyone dares with the first F major work springing forward with the real excitement of a new beginning; and the last, B flat major quartet suspending time itself in the slow movement. Every note tells, and nowhere more compellingly than in the C minor quartet, yet each one breathes proportion.

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His inclination to draw was so impulsive that some works are on envelopes, scraps of paper and even invoice sheets. Nottingham Castle Museum, Castle Road, Nottingham (0602 411881). Opens Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm.

tomorrow, until July 29, 10am-5.45pm daily. Then at the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, Aug 5-Sept 30 and Norwich Castle Museum, Oct 6-Nov 7.

## Openings

## PICTASSO DRAWINGS

Only a few of





## Sport

## Auctions

**INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL:** This afternoon a match between Scotland and England at Hampden Park, Glasgow, will be their last in the British championship, which is being scrapped. After Scotland's poor showing in the European championship, England's recent defeats by France and Wales, both sides have something to prove. The kick-off is at 3pm and the whole match is being covered live on TV.

**ZOLA BUDD:** The young South African athlete, whose sudden migration to Britain has caused controversy, is in action tomorrow afternoon at Cwmbran in Wales, where she runs in the heats of the women's 1,500m at the United Kingdom Championships. Her progress can be followed in *Sunday Grandstand*, BBC2, from 1.55pm. If she qualifies for the final, she can be seen again on Mon., BBC2, 2.10pm.

**EUROPEAN CUP:** Liverpool will be going for a unique football treble as they take on Roma in Italy on Wednesday evening, hoping to add the premier European trophy to the Milk Cup and the League championship. But with Roma playing on their home ground, the Rome Olympic Stadium, Joe Fagan's men will have this work cut out. The match is being covered live on TV. 7.05-7.15pm.

**TEXACO TROPHY:** Old Trafford, Manchester, the venue on Thursday for the first of three one-day cricket internationals between England and the West Indies, should win comfortably, but that is what we all said before the World Cup final last year when Clive Lloyd's team was surprisingly topped by India. There is ball-by-ball coverage on both BBC television and Radio 4, starting at 10.40am.

**SHOW JUMPING:** The new season gets under way on Friday with the Dubai International at Hickstead when Britain's top riders will be hoping to press their claims for selection for the Olympic Games. Television cameras will be there to see them, BBC1, from 4.45pm, and BBC2, from 4.15pm.

## CONCERTS

**NYMAN'S CONTRACT** Today, 7.30pm, Bloomsbury Theatre, Gordon Street, London WC1 (387 9628). Michael Nyman's band provides a rare opportunity of hearing his complete music for the Peter Greenaway film, *The Draughtsman's Contract*.

**BEETHOVEN SERIES 1** Today, 7.45pm, Crucible Theatre, Norfolk Street, Sheffield (0742 79922). As part of an enormous Beethoven chamber music series, Bernard Roberts plays the Piano Sonatas Op 2 No 3, 27 No 1, 49 Nos 1 and 2, and 53 "Waldstein".

**MUSIC/BARTOK** Tomorrow, 7.45pm, Gerdiner Centre, Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton (0273 685861). The Chilingirian Quartet begins a new series devoted to Mozart and Bartók, performing the latter's Quartet No 5 and the former's Quartet K57 and Duo K423.

**BATH FESTIVAL** Mon, 6pm, Guildhall Banqueting Room, Bath. The Bath Festival rolls on with the Vega Wind Quintet's interpretations of *Echoes of the Glass Bead Game* by Robert Saxon and Janáček's *Mladi*; they give the world premiere of James Dillon's *Le Rivage*, and John Blakely joins in for Mozart's Quintet K 452 for piano and wind instruments.

**HANOVER BAND BEETHOVEN** Tues, 1pm, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (028 8795, credit cards 638 8891). The Hanover Band, an "early music" group, play Beethoven's Symphony No 2 Op 35, then are joined by the London Fortepece Trio for his Triple Concerto Op 56. It should at least be an unusual concert.

**DAIKIN PREMIERE** Tues, 8pm, Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 (928 8501).

The world premiere of Melanie Daiken's *Africa* is given by the Morley Symphony Orchestra under Lawrence Leonard. They also perform Varese's *Arcana* and this is followed by an open rehearsal, with commentary, of Stravinsky's *Sacre du printemps*.

**KATHARINA WOLPE** Wed, 1pm, Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge, London SE1 (928 8501)

The first heroine of Motown Records, she cut "Two Lovers" and "My Guy" before Diana Ross was more than a gleam in Barry Gordy's eye.

**AL STEWART** Tues and Wed, Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (589 8212). The mixture on his new album *Russians and Americans*, reflects little change; a bit of myth and history, a bit of Bohemian sex, a bit of soft-singing.

**WEATHER GIRLS** Thurs, Hammersmith Palais, 242 Shepherd's Bush Road, London W1 (749 2821). "It's Raining Man" made a killing in the pink economy; perhaps Martin and Iza will also feature some of their pure gospel walling along with the high-camp specialities.

**NICK LOWE** Thurs, Dingwalls, Camden Lock London NW1 (267 4967). ... and his Cowboy Outfit, rumoured to be the brilliant quartet including Paul Carrack and Martin Belmont.

**BILL PERKINS** Thurs to Sat, Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (439 8722). Recently reactivated with great success, the American tenor is joined by Herbie Harper, another veteran.

**SAXOPHONE FESTIVAL** Thurs to Sat, Seven Dials Jazz Club, 46 Earlham Street, London WC2.

Thurs: The Stan Sulman Quintet, with Evan Parker playing solo; Fri: The potent pairing of Peter King and Ray Warleigh, Britain's finest bebop altoists.

**DOLLS FOR GROWNUPS:** Sotheby's sale on Tues contains a wonderful survival from around 1750, wooden doll dressed as a lady of fashion in pink silk, dotted net and lace. On a little shelf, two dolls representing the Queen of 1725 and the William and Mary doll of around 1690. The sale also includes fine doll's house and there is a morning auction of toys. Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (493 8080) 10.30am and 2.30pm.

**PAINTING THE EMPIRE:** The sale of paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures at Christie's South Kensington on Tues is packed with nineteenth-century scenes of remote corners of the British Empire that were, tempted out of British attics, by the price now paid in the countries depicted. The animals and birds of South Africa are caught in a brilliant series of watercolours by Thomas Beaman. Canadas under snow by Cornelius Krieghoff, and a rocky Australian river by Conrad Martens. Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (581 2231). Viewing Tues 9.30am-11am, sale 2pm.

**NELSON AND NAPOLEON:** Memorials of Lord Nelson and Napoleon are the main attractions of a Phillips sale of silver boxes and collectors' items on Wed. A private collection includes snuff and other boxes, medallions and vinaigrettes, estimated at £40 to £800. The sale includes silver nutmeg-graters, caddy spoons and wine labels. Phillips, Blenheim Street, London W1 (629 6602) at 2pm.

## Radio

**ONE FALSE STEP:** Tonight a *Saturday Night Theatre* play is a thriller by John Ashe in which a young boy is abducted from his boarding school, apparently by his French father to pre-empt divorce findings. But it becomes a case for the Special Branch when the man's business enemies intervene. That cast is headed by Terence Harvey, Emma Sutton and David Sinclair. Radio 4, 8.30-10pm.



Pupil power: "We ought to strike" was the topical caption for this 1941 illustration featured in an exhibition of girls' fiction (see Other Events); and Morris men, who will have something to jump up and down about tomorrow (see radio)



**AND THIS IS MORRIS DANCING:** A celebration and assessment of an art which is said to predate football and is probably our oldest form of dance. Jim Lloyd joins the golden jubilee celebrations of the Morris Ring, when more than 1,000 morris men gather at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Radio 4, tomorrow, 6.15-6.45pm.

**BILLY GRAHAM SPECIAL:** A 90-minute programme devoted to the American evangelist includes a profile by Rosmary Hartill and a live relay from Roker Park, the home of Sunderland football club, where Dr Graham is preaching as part of his "Mission England" campaign. Radio 4, tomorrow, 7.30-8pm.

**ORLANDO:** Virginia Woolf's remarkable kaleidoscopic novel, dramatised by Peter Buckner. *Orlando* is a fantasy which traces symbolically 300 years of history and has as its hero a boy who

eventually becomes a woman, aging only 20 years throughout. The narrator is Vivian Pickles. Radio 4, Mon, 8.15-9.45pm.

**BIRTH OF AN OLD LADY:** An historical portion of the Bank of England, which was founded in 1694 and moved to its present site in Threadneedle Street, in the City of London, 250 years ago. With contributions from the deputy governor, C. E. McMahon, and the man whose signature appears on the banknotes, the chief cashier, D. H. F. Somerset. Radio 4, Wad, 11.00am-noon.

## Festivals

**BATH FESTIVAL:** A double celebration: its thirty-fifth year and a decade under the artistic direction of Sir William Glock, who initiated the practice of commissioning new works for each festival. This year James Dillon, a young Glaswegian, has written Le

Dillon, to be premiered on Mon by the Seger Wind Quintet at the Guildhall, 6pm. Chamber concerts will be given by the Meleos Quartet from Stuttgart, the Cedar String Quartet and the Endellion String Quartet. Tippett's opera *The Knot Garden* performed by the Opera Factory London Sinfonia Company, on Fri and Sat at the Theatre Royal, illustrating the festival's theme - masques (in central Britain) and a permanent theatre maze is being constructed during the festival. At Christ Church on Fri the BBC Singers give the world premiere of *Eight Deszo Tandori Choruses* by Hungary's leading composer, Gyorgy Kurtag, who is attending the festival; six of his works will be performed in all. There are two important visual arts events: an exhibition of works by Michael Ayrton, many from his widow's collection and rarely on public view (Victoria Art Gallery); and the Contemporary Art Fair where 29 British galleries are

exhibiting (Assembly Rooms, today until Mon). Details: Bath Festival Society, 1 Linley House, Bath, Avon (0225 63362/68411), Until June 10.

**RICHMOND FESTIVAL:** A programme of good music and fine outings, with several architectural tours to fit in with the current RIBA festival. The Ruggieri String Quartet play in Richmond Parish Church on Wed. For families there is a chess tournament (today), Victoria picnic at Buccleuch Gardens (tomorrow, 11am-3.15pm), a Great Teddy Bear Reunion at Marble Hill (Mon, 1pm) and a dog show at Old Deer Park, (June 2). Details from Festival Box Office, Thomas Cook, 3 Dame Buildings, The Square, Richmond, Surrey (940 4848), Until June 3.

**OTHERS:** Exeter Festival Exeter Arts Booking and Information Centre, Princesshay, Exeter, Devon (0382 211080), today until June 10; Greenwich

Festival 22 Woolwich New Road, London SE19 (317 8687) Fri until June 17; Nottingham Festival Victoria Centre, Nottingham (0602 419741), today until June 18; Beethoven Festival/Crucible Studio, Sheffield (0742 7922), until June 3; Africa Africa Commonwealth Institute, London W8 (603 45535), until December; Festival of Architecture Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London W1 (580 5533), until December.

## Other events

**CANAL MARATHON:** The first organized Trans Pennine Canal Marathon is taking place on Britain's longest single canal, the Leeds to Liverpool, starting today at Leeds and finishing at Stanley Dock, Liverpool, on Thurs. The competitors face a strenuous route of 127 miles.

**TATTON COUNTRY CRAFT FAIR:** More than 100 crafts on display with demonstrations, including sheep shearing and spinning. Recreation of a village street with appropriate shops and an inn selling ale and cider. Morris dancing, brass band and ceilidhs and a children's play area with a clown and other entertainments. Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire. Today until Mon 10am-6pm, adults £1, children 70p.

**GLC SPRING FESTIVAL:** Not so much an outing, more a taste of London. Music and dance "from the four continents"; carnival, costumed, clowns, street theatre, magicians, fair rides and robotics; breaking and body popping all over the place. From County Hall to Waterloo Bridge. Tomorrow and Mon. Mon-Sat, 10am-4.30pm, free.

**MAD, BAD AND DANGEROUS TO KNOW:** Gary Bond as Lord Byron in an evening of the man and his poetry, compiled and narrated by Edward Piggy Day. Odette Gilbert (Galleria 5, Colmore Street, London W1, Wed at 8pm, Tickets £3.50 (including wine in this interval), in advance on 0342 2055 or 434 4171.

**JOLLY HOCKEY STICKS:** Dimsie, peggy and friends are livening things up at Bellfield Green next week. On Sat 17 June in an exhibition of stick figures will be put up by Edgerton, Angela Brazil, Elmer M. Brent-Dyer and other favourites. (Also, until June 23, Kit Williams' exhibition and competition.) Bellfield Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, London E9 (940 2415). Opens Wed until Sept 30. Mon-Thurs and Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 2.30-5pm.

## FILMS

**Powerful presence gives the lie to a myth**

"Stardom is meaningless. For God's sake, Rin-Tin-Tin was a star," Robert Mitchum once remarked. Indeed, he was thought for all his notability, the dog has yet to receive a National Film Theatre retrospective.

Mitchum's starts on Friday, the 20 films range through the years from *The Story of G.I. Joe* (1945) to *That Championship Season* (1962).

Mitchum has always been an odd kind of performer. His own interview comments perpetuate the myth of a lazy lump with limited talent: "I have two acting styles - with and without a horse", but the truth is more complicated. Others need acting tricks to convince: Rin-Tin-Tin wags his tail, Meryl Streep fiddles with her hair. Mitchum, somehow, gets by on sheer presence - on the combined

force of that weary voice, those drooping eyelids and shoulders, that air of stoic indifference.

He came to films in 1942 after working as a theatre actor, boxer, dishwasher and general drifter. For 10 years RKO used him as their principal masculine pin-up ("the male Jane Russell" was Mitchum's description). He suffered his share of ill-conceived dress, but the best films can still startle audiences. Take the flashback-stroo thriller *The Locket* (Fri); or *Out of the Past* (June 5); or Nicholas Ray's deeply-felt rodeo drama *The Lusty Men* (June 12).

Films made outside RKO proved equally adventurous. In *Ran* ( Welsh's Western Purse) (Juns 5), he stalks through a dark emotional landscape, a vengeful cowboy with the kind of memories to delight Sigmund Freud: as the murderous preacher in Charles Laughton's *Night of the Hunter* (June 7), made in 1955, he gaves a definitive portrayal of rampant human evil.

In the same year, the scabrous *Confidential* magazine claimed Mitchum had graced a masquerade party disguised as a hamburger, wearing nothing but ketchup. Mitchum successfully sued, though his later films gave him parts almost as off-beat - in *Ryan's Daughter* (Juns 19, 24) he was a timorous Irish schoolteacher. But in 1975 Mitchum finally played the character he seemed born for - Raymond Chandler's Philip Marlowe, laconic prince of private eyes. Strictly speaking he was too old for his part in *Farewell, My Lovely* (Juns 26), filmed by RKO 30 years before with Dick Powell. But the Mitchum presence climed beautifully with the battered hat and trench coat, with Marlowe's curious mixture of vulnerability and worldly-wise cynicism. No other star could inhabit the character so well - least of all Kin-Tin-Tin.

**Geoff Brown**  
The Robert Mitchum season at the National Film Theatre, South Bank, London, runs from June 1 to 26 (928 5232).  
  
**Christopher Warman**  
*Kipling* previews at the Mermaid Theatre (236 5568) on Tues and Wed at 7.45pm. Opens Thurs at 7pm. Thereafter Mon-Sat at 7.45pm.

## Out of Town

## Openings

## STRANGERS KISS (15): Hollywood

## CORTEZ (15):

## Texas Rangers hunt down a

## Mexican cowhand in 1901 - a

## legend investigated by leading

## American independent film-maker.

## Robert M. Young with sympathy,

## laurie and strained. Freddie Jones

## heads a populous,

## British-flavoured cast.

## THE BALLAD OF GREGORIO

## CORTÉZ (15):

## Electric Screen (351 3749)

## Texas Rangers hunt down a

## Mexican cowhand in 1901 - a

## legend investigated by leading

## American independent film-maker.

## Robert M. Young with sympathy,

## RUE CASES-NEGRES (PG)

## Chelsea Cinema (351 3749)

## Few current films offer as much

## human warmth as this captivating

## first feature by the West Indian

## director Suzan-Lori Parks. Opened

## at Gate Notting Hill (221 0220/

## 727 6705).

## THE TERRY FOX STORY (PG):

## "Next summer I'm going to run

## across Canada," says Terry Fox,

## cancer victim. And he does so. This

## real-life drama was the first film

## made especially for TV. Ralph

## L. Thomas directs; amputee Eric

## Frye and Robert Duvall star. Royal

## Charity Premieres on Thurs at 7.30pm.

## Kenneth Branagh

## THE ARTS

## Theatre

# Anticipation on the brink of comedy and despair

**The Cherry Orchard**  
Haymarket, Leicester

David Aukin launches his regime at Leicester by renewing the translator-director partnership of Pam Gems and Nancy Meckler, whom he first brought together for the Hampstead version of *Uncle Vanya*.

Like fine production, its Leicester sequel is imaginatively cast and directed with an acute sensitivity to the art of playing comedy on the brink of despair. It also takes full advantage of a large stage, unavailable at Hampstead, and his on a brilliant device for integrating design and music.

Scenes are linked with passages from Mussorgsky's *Pictures from an Exhibition*, while the pictures - giant oil-framed canvases by John Byrne - stand in nostalgic perspective to the immediate action.

The nursery wall presents a

pastel portrait of Ranevskaya and Gayev in childhood; this gives way to the prospect of a desolate avenue of poplars in the second act; while the party takes place in front of a gaunt picture of the orchard itself.

My problem with this play is always that the impact of the first act all but eclipses what follows: everything is implicit in that early-morning home coming and the anticipation is stronger than the actual happening. If anything, this imbalance is more pronounced than ever in Miss Meckler's production.

Affred Molina's Yerichov makes one incautious move and does a wonderful back somersault over the sofa, regaining his balance with the first of many a mirthless laugh. The family tumbles in, crying with delight and exhaustion, sniffling each other with affection and imparting news.

You register the tight feature of Linda Bassett's Varya, the

impregnable self-satisfaction of Anthony Allen's Yasha (one kiss-curl plastered over his balding head); and an unusual contrast between the two siblings.

Both tall and willowy, Susan Engel and Benjamin Whitrow look like brother and sister. But where Mr Whitrow's Gayev sits aloof from the embraces, addressing the servants with cold authority, Miss Engel's every move is fired by impulsive emotional generosity which includes everyone in her family.

It is clear from the first words they exchange that Nick Stringer's Lopakhin is besotted with her, that Varya does not stand a chance (all she gets at his departure is a formal handshake), and that Jack Lyon's Pecherin loves her even more than her money.

Then comes the climactic moment of Trofimov's arrival. They are looking out into the orchard, the scene impercep-

tibly darkens and Ranevskaya falls sobbing on his shoulders at the memory of her child's death. Then - a master-stroke of direction - she collapses over the sofa in a tragic recap of Yerichov's comic fall.

Nothing in the rest of the production carries anything like the same emotional weight; though I much admired the agonized deliberation of Lopakhin's balked proposal, the stage management of the party scene, and Mr Whitrow's progressive decline from head of a household into demoralized defeat.

Mrs Gem's translation plays fluently, but without adding any noticeable insights or turns of phrase (apart from rechristening Yerichov's "One Foot in a Cow Pat"). This is the first *Cherry Orchard* I have seen at which an audience burst into terminal applause before the last arrival of Firs (Godfrey Kenton).

Irving Wardle



Benjamin Whitrow and Susan Engel: unusual contrast

## Police victims of mugged sketch

**Gymslip Vicar**  
Lyric Studio,  
Hammersmith

"Me brother's a Jesuit boxing coach." Pity that one turned out to be untrue, but long before the end of Cliffhanger's new show you have lost track in what one character, locating the right cliché, calls "a bizarre spider's web of fact and fiction". This company's stock-in-trade is cliché, of B-movie and soap opera: situation, dialogue, character, and acting (hammed up like fury).

In an interview last year at Edinburgh they said that "people are massively influenced" by such dramatic trash, claiming (probably with tongue in cheek) that this gives serious point to a relentlessly mugged 10-minute sketch spun out to two hours. Last time it was science fiction, which can be much more hilarious than parody; now it is the turn of TV police dramas with their cardboard figures, contrived shocks, and mawkish domestic scenes.

Tiny Rebecca Stevens is doing her scowling-distraught act because hubby has disappeared, leaving (no cassette) a weird tale of swapping identities with a pot-bellied Sunday tabloid journalist, buried babies, clandestine gay

romances and a string-vested punk called Stingo, who uses liver-pait wrappings as contraceptives.

The parody - the emotional confrontation while feeding ducks in the park, or the endless repetition of "You don't mind me calling you Jane?" culminating in "Your husband Barry, you don't mind me calling him your husband?" - can be amusingly accurate, but, by tainting it with other gags, they try to have it both ways. Characters yell "Bring, bring" and pick up the phone; what cliché detective would claim to have pains in his ovaries, and what soap-opera would show a father doing sex-education by "showing his tackle"?

Doubling frantically as Stingo and his long-dead punk twin (wearing a ripped vest labelled "I am Dead"), Tony Haase and Robin Driscoll resume their cheap suits as inspector and reporter respectively transfigured by Ms Stevens's screamingly lethal bursts of "psychic power".

As an unlikely paragon of domestic passion repeatedly detailing the elaborate mysteries of his Sunday-supplement gourmet meals, Peter McCarthy wanders through his grotesque oxalids with increasing astonishment.

**Anthony Masters**

## Everyman writ large

**Oblomov**  
Gate.

London theatre has been having a feast of nineteenth-century Russia. Oblomov and his bedclothes take so well to the stage that their reappearance was only a matter of time.

John Gielgud's new one-man adaptation turns out to be a really rewarding occasion: endearing, touching and finally very disturbing. Raad Rawi, a young virtuous actor with more than a passing likeness to Antony Sher, is a born comic who begins by stirring luxuriantly in his sleep, waking to see the audience, then rolling over terrified into his covers as though we were a nightmare (many actors must sometimes feel like that). But the tragedy of this man's paralysis of will and fear of reality never disappears from view; and this great absurd character always remains a true trait of most of us writ large.

What is most impressive, indeed, is the show's sustained double-vision - not only of farce and tragedy, but of Oblomov's appalling inadequacy as a member of society and his honest sensitive soul. There is biting satire in his feverish projects for sets' cottages and schools on his estate, which never get further than scattered architects' plans under the *chaise-longue*. Then he earns our pity: so upset by the world's maltreatment of feelings, imagination and endeavour that he flees from reality altogether.

Finally, there is his affair. In part, innocently genuine, his love is also an ecstatic escape from reality; and, when the prospect of happiness becomes real, it is one thing more to escape from, before our aghast eyes. Mr Rawi is persuading himself - and, most fervently, Olga - that she does not love him. Her masterly reply shows how well she understood him, and what sort of girl it is that he finally gives away to a hearty (and, of course, splendidly active) friend.

**Anthony Masters**

## Concerts

### From improvisations to variations

**Alberto Portugheis**  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Those variations on a nursery tune that Mozart composed have seldom sounded so sturdy as they did at the hands of Alberto Portugheis last night.

In place of formality and charm, he played as if they might have been improvisations at the keyboard that Mozart later happened to write out, urging them forward from one to the next with hardly a breath between, and daring to imbue the later variations with a touch of romantic spirit.

This became better suited to the larger and greater variations that came out those of Brahms on a theme by Handel (op. 24), each given a decisive musical character of its own, each strongly contrasted with its successor, but nevertheless pointing to the relationship of pairs that occurs in several places. To extend them into the following fugue, the pianist allowed the tension to accumulate not with the variations that preceded, but within the fugue subject itself, thereby increasing the suddenness of its impact.

Although the interval definitely came after Brahms had already ventured far in his harmonic implications, it meant that the two early (and separate) sonata movements by Webern, which began the second half, were to some extent anticipated in their loosening of traditional harmony. Mr Portugheis treated them as emotional mood pieces, each with its arch of expressive character to shape both form and content.

The Stygian gloom imposed on the audience throughout meant that it was impossible to read any programme information, much less consult a score and that might have concentrated the intellect on what Brahms and Webern were about, it hardly helped to inform us of the pictorial associations of Roberto Gerhard's dances from *Don Quixote*.

A forgotten ballet by Ninette de Valois, staged in 1950 for Margot Fonteyn and Robert Helpmann, this yielded a musical suite as varied, subtle and invigorating in the composer's own piano version as in its orchestral garb. Whether or not the music is worth looking at

again for stage performance, it was invested here with a boldness of character, subtlety of rhythm and delicacy of detail that was quite a rediscovery.

**Noël Goodwin**  
**Bernard Roberts/**  
**Delmé Quartet**  
Wigmore Hall

No doubt the intention of the "Late Beethoven" series has been to restore a balanced view of the composer. But to insert between two undoubtedly great late works music as banal and charmless as the four flute and piano variations from Op. 107 that we heard in the final concert on Wednesday seems to me slightly perverse.

That said, Susan Milan played the not very demanding flute parts soundly and sweetly, while Bernard Roberts's expertly and appropriately nationally flavoured contributions (three of the pieces were based on Scottish tunes, one on a Russian one) successfully disguised the music's trickiness. Happily, the rest of the

evening was rather more inspiring. Roberts began with the Six Bagatelles, Op. 126, not so much miniatures as condensations. Just as in Beethoven's variation movements the overt investigation of something simple reveals underlying complexities, so in these short pieces apparently undeveloped ideas possess implications that continue working themselves out long after the notes have ceased. Mr Roberts was careful to calculate the space around each piece, allowing every gesture, placid or violent, to initiate its own sense of thought.

If the Bagatelles are in a sense triggers for further thought, the String Quartet, Op. 131, embraces in its notes the entire human experience. Even if they lacked the last measure of poise in some of the more demanding faster moments, the Delmé Quartet were obviously at one with the work's far-reaching spirituality. From the awesome darkness of the opening fugue to the complex denouement which yet suggests the turning of a full circle, theirs was a reading that gripped with equal tenacity both heart and intellect.

**Stephen Pettitt**

## Rock

### Wobbly on its feet

**Blancmange**  
Hammersmith Palais

Blancmange started life as an off-beat duo performing a homey performance pop that made great use of prepared tapes. When these went wrong, as they frequently did, singer Neil Arthur would revert to amusing the audience with his stream of silly jokes and even sillier dancing.

Now that Blancmange is a professional concern, with commercial success, infallible equipment and a large audience to please, they still maintain a certain element of "Murder", or the complex emotional terrain of Abba's "The Day Before You Came", the desired effect fell short.

Blancmange is not pretend to make any grand gestures, and there is much wit in Arthur's lyrics, but when they attempted the harder textures of "Murder", or the complex emotional terrain of Abba's "The Day Before You Came", the desired effect fell short.

The best moments came on their novelty songs - "Kind", with its absurd high street imagery, and the corny "Waves". Light-hearted, often funny and seldom soulful would seem to summarize Blancmange at present. While the hits keep arriving they will be in good shape. They need more substance to present a truly memorable live show.

**Max Bell**

## Radio

### Medium ruins the message

While the current vogue of being beastly to *Rollercoaster* has all the attractions of an anachronism upon the very latest outrage to aesthetic and cultural standards, there are other, more enduring irritations to the listener and one of them is bad reception.

A recent correspondent, living in London, described the long-wave sound of Radio 4 in the evening as a high-pitched squeak, before suggesting that such appalling reception was but the first step in a plan to deter listeners so thoroughly that the subsequent phasing out of Radio 4 would pass unnoticed.

While I think this latest addition to the fascinating catalogue of conspiracy theories is among the more improbable, in the mean time my correspondent, and others before him, is perfectly right: Radio 4 long-wave reception can be dim at any time, while at night it is often intolerable. The reasons for this are well known, and short of some not-to-be-exploited scientific miracle, there is very little to be done about them: once the daylight goes, long and medium-wave signals deteriorate; and there are some unavoidable weak spots in the coverage of the immensely powerful transmitter at Droitwich.

Most of these are the effect of distance (Scotland, Northern Ireland and parts of Northern and extreme South-West England) but in these places there are either local long-wave transmitters or, as in London on 720 KHz (417 metres), a medium-wave alternative.

The capital, though not that far from Droitwich, is swamped with interference from TV sets and other electrical apparatus which reduces the wretched long waves to a kind of frequent pulp.

One factor in complaints about reception is that many listeners seem not to be aware that a medium-wave alternative exists.

In the third week of the festival the Dance Theatre of Harlem arrives with two separate programmes. Canada's own National Ballet will give the Toronto première of John Cranko's *Onegin*.

Oscar Peterson will appear with the Modern Jazz Quartet, and there will be a concert of Jazz Guitar Greats featuring Charlie Byrd, Herb Ellis, Marty Grosz, Barney Kessel and Joe Pass.

Of course there are other disincentives to VHF listening - like carrying around a set with aerial extended if you're a habitual peripatetic.

Of all the networks, only Radio 3 is permanently available on VHF. The reason for that situation and why it's going to take so long to go away is a tale of guilt and misery on its own, but one that must wait till another day.

**David Wade**

## Television

### Simple, but spectacular

**The Mysterious Journey**  
(Survival Special, Anglia)

It was clear that the Kemps had gone to an enormous amount of trouble in their pursuit of the migration, but the pictures they brought back were worth the arduous carriage: some of them, especially those of the antelopes huddling across the dry plains, were quite spectacular.

There are so many programmes about African wildlife, complete with pictures of the local natives (on this occasion it was said yet again that "they are a proud people") performing their customs from time immemorial in a region "that has changed little for centuries", that the armchair explorer might be forgiven for thinking that he has seen it all before.

But last night's documentary was genuinely intriguing, and its makers deserve praise for both their skill and their enterprise.

**Peter Ackroyd**

• Rex Harrison and Claudette Colbert star in *Frederick Lonsdale's Aren't We All?*, opening at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, on June 20.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY  
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## New markets are the key to instability

Jitters over the American banking system were gradually subsiding yesterday. Trading in US bank certificates of deposit was still sticky and markets remain nervous. In the foreign exchange market especially, nobody was prepared to stick his neck out and dealers spent the day squaring their books ahead of the long weekend. However, the wilder rumours of the previous day, which must have given central bankers a restless night, were less in evidence, and there was no sign of contagion spreading to these shores.

There are numerous factors which go some way to explaining the extraordinary crisis of confidence in the American banking system: they include US economic policy and rising interest rates, Latin American debt exposure and bad domestic loans. Perhaps equally important is the realization that over recent decades banks everywhere have tended to become inherently less stable. The emergence of sophisticated wholesale money markets has enabled them to grow rapidly without access to large retail deposit bases. But taking chunky deposits from other banks has its dangers. Bankers are among the first to run for cover at the first hint of trouble, as Continental Illinois discovered.

British banks are less vulnerable than many of the big American money centre banks on this count. Although wholesale funds have become increasingly important as a source of deposits, the British clearers still have enormous balances drawn from the general public, which provide a stable base.

In parallel with the general trend towards a more volatile deposit base, banks have tended to reduce their liquidity and tie-up a growing share of their assets in longer-term loans. This process has been aggravated by numerous debt-reschedulings for Third World borrowers.

The big four clearing banks, for instance, pushed up the ratio of advances to deposits from 68 per cent in 1972 to 84 per cent in 1982, thus reducing the buffer of quickly-realizable funds at their disposal.

Liquid funds serve as the banks' first line of defence should depositors start withdrawing their money, although in the event of a real confidence crisis, any amount of liquidity is likely to prove inadequate. Even capital ratios become wonderfully irrelevant once confidence flags. Continental Illinois was adequately capitalized by both American and international standards.

Reassurance must ultimately be sought in the behaviour of the central bank, and the US Federal Reserve has demonstrated over Continental Illinois that it is prepared to meet extraordinary liquidity needs. The knowledge that it will not allow a leading US bank to fail because of exceptional liquidity problems, seemed to be getting through to markets yesterday.

## Reuters holders face tax maze

One of the most complicated issues yet to be raised publicly over the sale of Reuters' shares is the capital gains tax bills which will land on doormats about this time next year. They will be different for each of the owners of the news and business information agency but still painful.

The point was raised yesterday by Mr Richard Gibbs, chairman of Homes Counties Newspapers in his annual statement to shareholders. After telling them that the first four months of this year saw improving advertising revenue, he went on to say that the group was eligible

for 800,000 Reuters "B" shares of which it has put up a maximum 55,000 for sale. At the minimum 180p tender price in Britain this would yield the company £90,000.

The tax bill would normally come out about £300,000. But, says Mr Gibbs, the bill could be halved depending on how the Inland Revenue interpret the restructuring of newspapers' holdings in Reuters through the Press Association in the 1970s.

If the restructuring is viewed as a disposal of old shares and purchase of new, the GGT is likely to be at 30 per cent. If the Revenue rules it was merely a replacement of existing securities, then the newspaper can apply for apportionment of the total bill. They could then take 20 years back from 1965 when capital gains tax was introduced, and average out the liability. Homes Counties for example, would face a 15 per cent tax bill instead of 30 per cent. The company incidentally bought its stake in 1937 for £2,000.

Meanwhile, the American reaction to the flotation is said to be favourable still and the target of a dollar equivalent price of between 200p and 235p has not moved. The reckoning will come on Thursday when the American test run ends. Reuters' advisers will then announce the price level in American and the British investors will have until 10am next Saturday to put in their tender offers for dealings to start in London and New York on June 4.

## Bank of their own for the societies

While the delegates at this week's Building Societies Association conference at Harrogate debated an embarrassing length the merits of raising the retirement age for building society directors from 70 to 75, some of the more alive spectators were quietly advocating radical changes which would have far-reaching effects on the entire financial services industry.

Proposals for a building society central bank which would negotiate with the clearing banks on behalf of all building societies for access to the clearing system were put forward by two speakers - Professor Jack Revell, director of the Institute of European Finance, and Mr Brian Townley of the Building Societies Association. "Such a bank would free societies from their dependence for payment services upon organizations who are in direct competition with them", Mr Townley said.

Currently, individual societies are gaining access to the clearing system and money transmission services through links with high street banks. But Mr Townley asserted: "The banks' cartel in controlling these essential payment services puts the building societies in a weaker competitive position one that is not helped by being a number of alternative banks."

The possibility of a building society bank was also suggested by Professor Jack Revell. "A powerful central organization for the building society movement, armed with full banking powers would enable societies to deal with the clearing banks on level terms."

Details of how such a bank could be set up were not discussed and it may not even be possible under existing legislation.

But the notion could have charms not just for the building societies, but for the Bank of England too. The Government is known to be sympathetic to those banks and other financial institutions which claim they are being denied access to clearing facilities on reasonably terms, and there is a feeling that if the banks do not allow access then the Government may be forced to move.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Brunton to retire

Mr Gordon Brunton is to retire at the end of this year as president and chief operating officer of International Thomson Organisation, the Canadian-based publishing, travel and North Sea oil group, and as chief executive of its British operating subsidiary. Mr Michael Brown is to be president of the Canadian parent company in succession to Mr Brunton and Mr James Evans will take on his job at the British subsidiary.

• DAVENPORTS BREWERY is to pay an interim dividend of 3.6p (3.4p) for the 26 weeks to March 31. Pretax profits fell from £1.1 billion to £988,000 on sales ahead from £1.67m to £1.75m.

Tempus, page 22

• ANOTHER SLICE of privatization of the British Steel Corporation was disclosed yesterday with the announcement that Lye Tioplate, part of RSC's stockholding arm, is to be acquired by Aiston Tioplate, a subsidiary of Wolf Steel, in which the BSC already has a shareholding. Wolf Steel and the BSC will each hold 50 per cent of the enlarged Aiston, which is based a few miles from Lye in West Glamorgan.

## Bank still to face claims

From John Earle, Rome

The Vatican Bank is still facing claims from former shareholders of the failed Banco Ambrosiano after an agreement signed in Geneva yesterday with representatives of the 109 creditor banks.

A lawyer of the Metz Legal Studies of Milan said it was pressing a civil claim against the Banco Ambrosiano on behalf of more than 100 former small shareholders. Similar actions have also begun by other Milan lawyers representing further groups of shareholders.

Investigations, the lawyer said were under way into the possible liability of Archbishop Paul Marcinkus, the Vatican Bank's chairman. Also named were the chief lay executive, Signor Luigi Mennini, and the chief accountant, Signor Pellegrino de Strobel.

Another vessel, La Minera, under the flag of the Bahamas, was at Conakry, in Guinea, when a group of about 100 armed thieves attacked it over a period of two days. The authorities did not intervene. Two 15-ton and one 17½-ton hydraulic jacks were reported stolen and several containers were opened. The chief officer

## Petticoat pirates plunder laundry

By John Lawless

When a band of women pirates raided a cargo ship at the Nigerian port of Bonny, they not only chose the most appropriately named vessel there, the Panamanian-registered Amazona, but plundered just the contents of the ship's laundry.

That incident - as described by Eric Eilen, director of the London-based International Maritime Bureau (IMB) at a conference of transport police officials in Amsterdam yesterday - took place last October.

It is not clear whether the male members of the crew were too embarrassed to say what was stolen. The official report, an IMB report, "The Incidence of Piracy and Armed Robbery from Merchant Ships", reveals several much more vicious attacks on ships wanting to unload at developing countries.

The Thai Government, Mr Eilen said, has reported that groups of between 15 and 20 pirates are "using specially designed speedboats to attack passenger and merchant ships" off its coast, then evade pursuing police.

One reason for a fall in Nigerian incidents is thought to be the "greatly reduced flow of trade to that country", eliminating port congestion. However, the report adds: "Once foreign trade returns to its former level, piracy will once again become a major problem."

THE TIMES SATURDAY MAY 26 1984

## US bank scare puts plan for expansion in jeopardy

From Bailey Morris, Washington

impact

on Latin debtor nations could precipitate a crisis in the banking system.

Analysts believe that the federal bailout of Continental Illinois, the eighth largest US bank, has already forced the central bank to alter its policies by temporarily easing credit conditions.

In addition, the deposit run on Continental, coupled with the problems experienced by the Manufacturers Hanover, led to calls yesterday for increased federal insurance to cover big deposits in excess of the \$100,000 ceiling.

These developments have put pressure on federal authorities to reassure the public that the central bank will both insure adequate liquidity in the system

account ceiling rule, only \$4 billion of the \$28.6 billion in deposits at Continental Illinois last month would have been insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The possibility that their money could be at risk caused by big depositors, particularly in Europe and Japan, to pull out their money in record numbers, resulting in a run on the bank which officials fear could spread.

These developments have put pressure on federal authorities to reassure the public that the central bank will both insure adequate liquidity in the system

and that there is a programme in place to handle the Latin American debt problem.

Doubts over the Latin American debt problem persist, casting a shadow over some big US banks which are heavily exposed in the region.

US Treasury officials sought yesterday to play down growing concerns that Argentina could fail to meet its next round of interest payments, saying they were encouraged by progress in the Latin nation's talks with officials of the International Monetary Fund.

## Towry chief joins M &amp; G

In a move of considerable significance for the industry, Mr Richard Cockcroft, chief executive of Towry Law, the financial consulting group, has been recruited by M & G, the fund manager, to head its life and pensions company.

This marks a renewed thrust by M & G into the insurance side of the retail investment business. Towry Law has a high reputation and Mr Cockcroft has been with the company for 20 years.

"We are going to reorganize the whole of the insurance group," confirmed Mr David Hopkins, chief executive of M & G. Mr Cockcroft takes up his appointment at beginning of July.

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1055.5 up 3.9

High 1057.5, Low 1042.9

FTR Index: 827.9 up 1.5

FT All Share: N/A

Bargains: 21.857

Datastream USM Leaders Index: 107.64 down 1.94

New York Dow Jones Average: 1109.29 up 5.86

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10.142 down 10.82

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 902.79 down 20.21

Amsterdam: 169.5 down 5.8

## CURRENCIES

## LONDON CLOSE

Sterling: \$1.3850 up 0.01

Index: 79.4 down 0.1

DM: 3.7720 down 0.0225

FrF: 11.6050 down 0.0550

Yen: 320.75 up 0.75

Dollar: Index: 130.9 up 0.1

DM: 2.7220 down 0.0212

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling: \$1.3840

Dollar: DM: 2.7200

## INTERNATIONAL

ECU: £0.592500

SDR: £0.754588

## INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:

Bank base rates: 9.9%

Finance houses base rate: 9

Discount market loans week fixed: 7

3 month Interbank: 9.1% - 9.5%

Euro-currency rates:

3 month dollar: 11.5% - 11.8%

3 month DM: 6.1% - 6.5%

3 month Fr: 13.5% - 13.8%

US rates:

Bank prime rate: 12.50

Fed funds: 10

Treasury long bond: 9.6% - 9.6%

ECQD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period April 4 to May 1 1984 inclusive: 8.934 per cent

## GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):

am \$380.00 pm \$384.20

close \$384.50 (£277.50-278)

New York (tales): \$385.40

Krupperand (per coin):

\$395.397 (£285.50-286.25)

Sovereigns\* (new):

\$90.50-91.50 (£65.25-66)

\*Excludes VAT

## Free Jaguar issue ruled out by BL

By Jonathan Davis

The surviving private share-

holders in BL, the state-owned car company, will not receive any free issue of shares in Jaguar when the luxury car maker is privatized this year, Sir Austin Bide, the BL chairman, said at yesterday's annual meeting.

They will receive some preferential rights, but these are likely to be confined to application and allotment of shares. Sir Austin ruled out any free or bonus issue for the minority shareholders, whose stake in BL has now shrunk to no more than a third of one per cent of the company. The Government holds more than 90 per cent.

Mr Noel Falconer, spokesman for the BL Individual Shareholders Society and a long-standing champion of the private shareholders, called for BL shareholders to be given one Jaguar share for every BL share they still hold when the issue takes place.

A number of shareholders criticized the plan to float Jaguar, saying they could not understand why the company

Sir Austin Bide: cash will help other parts of BL

was selling the most profitable part of its business. Jaguar made an operating profit of £55m last year.

Sir Austin replied that the BL board was committed to returning parts of the business to the private sector, and proceeds from the flotation would generate cash to help the other parts of BL's business.

Detailed proposals for the flotation of Jaguar must be submitted to a general meeting of shareholders before the issue can take place.

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Initially we will be looking at smaller companies especially those involved in the energy sector,

## STOCK MARKET REPORT

# Index makes small recovery but nervousness stays

By Derek Pain and Michael Clark

After Thursday's hysteria share markets struggled to settle down yesterday. Trading was volatile and uncertain and the atmosphere remained tense. In early dealing it looked as though the haemorrhage would continue with shares, as measured by the FT 30 share index, down 6.8 points at the first call over.

But gradually there were suggestions that a little confidence was returning and helped along by bear covering the index ended with a modest 1.5 point plus at 827.9.

With shares down almost 50 points over the week, the second leg of a three week account, the market is expected to remain nervous. It was only

*Yesterday's technical rally was greeted with a sigh of relief by most dealers who will have been pleased to see the back of this week. However, conditions still remain uncertain. This was highlighted by a large seller of about 1 million shares in BTB who was forced to withdraw after failing to find anyone brave enough to take the stock on board. The shares later recovered to close 3p up on the day at 46.2p.*

early this month that the index hit a new 922.8 points peak.

Government stocks also steadily fell with only gains covered into gains of £14 or so. But golds came into their own. With the Gulf war and US bank worries continuing to dominate - not to mention the miners strike and higher interest rate fears - the bullion price rose 4½ US dollars to 382 dollars an ounce. There was considerable activity in the market after a long period of comparative idleness. Other precious metals were also higher.

Among gold shares there were gains of up to five dollars. Consolidated Gold Fields mirrored the mood, if not the degree of gains, with progress of 30p to 564p.

The high street clearers presented a dull picture still uncertain over the turn of the American banking scene and renewed talk of an increase in domestic rates. Barclays recovered an early 10p fall to close unchanged at 459p, while Lloyds traded at 519p, Midland 15p to 337p and National Westminster 5p to 589p. Bank of Scotland held steady at 319p.

Royal Insurance closed unchanged at 545p. Sun Alliance resisted the trend closing 3p up at 346p.

Elsewhere Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, was cock-a-hoop at defeating two bids which had been fought out to the sixtieth day.

Mr David Abell's offer, through Soter for Francis Industries lapsed after receiving

were falls in RMC Group 2p to 416p and Rugby Portland 1½p to 105½p. Manders fell 3p to 147p, Magnet & Southern 4p to 146p and CH Beazer 10p to 36p.

The retail sector put in a late rally helped by a burst of selective support with Boots losing 1p to 173p, after extremes of 172p. British Home Stores put on 4p to 200p and

elsewhere, Blue Circle closed unchanged at 240p, but there

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## FAMILY MONEY

**Gold fund launch**

This weekend sees the launch of a Gold Fund from Schroder Unit Trust Managers. Units are available at the opening price of 50p each until June 15. The minimum investment is £500.

The new trust will invest in a broadly-based portfolio of 30 companies.

Over the long term says Schroder, gold has proved to be an outstanding hedge against both inflation and international upheavals.

Information from Schroder Unit Trust Managers. (tel: 01-836 8731).

**New look bond**

Family Assurance has relaunched its Family Bond in line with the new limits for friendly society encouraged in the Budget. The revised bond allows married couples to contribute between them £16.92 monthly or £199.50 annually.

This bond is for married couples or single parents.

The policy includes life cover of at least £750 per person, or the value of the accumulated units, whichever is the greater.

As with the pre-Budget Family Bond, it is designed to run for at least 10 years, after which the policyholder has three tax-free options: cash the bond, hold it to continue to grow without further contributions, fund or take regular payments from the unit-linked fund.

Further information from Planned Savings Personal Financial Services, Brighton. (tel: 0273 696000).

**A stake in Lloyd's**

The first opportunity to get a stake in Lloyd's without having to accept unlimited liability is one not to be missed. Capital Ventures Ltd is launching a new fund, the Lloyd's Act Divestment Fund which will invest in a range of Lloyd's underwriting managing agencies now being sold off as a result of the new Lloyd's Act.

Up to now the profitable investment area - ownership of the managing agents which run Lloyd's syndicates - has been monopolised by the big Lloyd's brokers. Because of the obvious conflicts of interest the brokers are being forced to divest themselves of their holdings in managing agencies and there is likely to be a rush to obtain a stake in these highly profitable enterprises. The managers make money, regardless of whether the syndicate makes profits.

Capital Ventures new fund has the advantage of giving investors a stake in a number of Lloyd's managing agencies. The drawback is that applications will initially be allocated to Lloyd's members and the ordinary member of the public will have to wait at the end of the queue. Minimum investment is £1,000 and a maximum of £20,000. With no claim particularly at supporting management buyouts - an insurance agency is only as good as or bad as its people' Mr Denis Fredjohn, who set up the fund and is himself a manager of Lloyd's, said.

Anyone wanting a stake should not delay. Applications will be dealt with on a first come, first served basis. Details from Denis Fredjohn, Capital Ventures Ltd, 37 London Road, Cheltenham, GL2 8HA. Tel: 0242 584360.

**Midland study loan**

Student borrowers can now apply for a professional studies loan from Midland Bank. This scheme, which at present applies to solicitors, certified accountants and British business management students studying in Britain, has also been extended to British management students studying overseas at centres approved by the Business Graduates Association.

The Professional Studies Loan Scheme offers a concessionary interest rate of 4 per cent during the study period and for 12 months afterwards. No repayments have to be made during the study period, with interest-only payments for the next two years.

The maximum loan for one-year students is £2,000, or two-thirds of salary during the preceding 12 months, whichever is the greater - plus course fees. No security is necessary and there is an automatic deferral benefit.

Further details from any branch of the Midland.

**Retirement advice**

Advice for anyone concerned about their retirement will be on offer at the 50+ Exhibition in London on July 25 to 26, and in Birmingham on October 27 and 28.

Arthur H. Smith, of Arthur Anderson, said the BES has been a major stimulus in provision of equity finance, despite its complexities. It could be a cheaper source of funds.

Cannon Assurance. There will also be financial advisors from National Savings, Property Growth and Pensions. The aim of the 50+ Exhibition is to give advice on all the financial aspects of retirement.

**Finding investors**

Problems as well as benefits of the Business Expansion Scheme were explored at an Institute of Directors conference in London this week. Ralph Fields, a director of W.H. Am, said that when Am's needed £1.4m it was decided to approach investors through newspaper advertising and mailing, which then showed that there were many people with money to invest that never had contact with stockbrokers or merchant banks.

They included most of the black and Asian immigrant communities, some which are particularly prosperous, said Mr Fields. One lesson learned was that it would be best to plan ahead with an advertising agency to avoid wasteful spending.

He believed commercial radio or television could be developed into a cost effective media for selling securities, although they were not explored for the Am issue.

The end result was 400 new shareholders, including one BES fund, none of whom owned more than 5 per cent of the share capital, a most satisfactory result with no threat of over-domination, Mr Fields said.

Arthur H. Smith, of Arthur Anderson, said the BES has been a major stimulus in provision of equity finance, despite its complexities. It could be a cheaper source of funds.

**PIN-Point pioneer**

The Leicester Building Society is the first in Britain to introduce counter-top card readers, called Leicesterser PIN-Points. This is part of a comprehensive automation programme.

PIN-Points will read the magnetic strip on Leicesterser cards already issued to more than 300,000 of the society's customers, giving instant access to the society's mainframe computer and the ability to read their card.

Customers will have the choice of using the passbook, or the Leicesterser PIN-Point for an electronic transaction. Details from Leicester Building Society (0533 717272).

**Extra interest**

Lloyds Bank has raised the rate paid on its Extra Interest Account from 8.25 to 8.75 per cent from last Monday.

The minimum investment on the Extra Interest Account is £2,500 and interest is calculated on the daily balance. One month's notice is required for withdrawals. Further details are available from any branch of Lloyds Bank.

**Growing bond**

Capital Life has increased the return on its Guaranteed Growth Bond by half of one per cent. The minimum investment is £2,000 with an income option on sums over £25,000. One-year bonds offer a return of 8 per cent - equivalent to a gross return to the basic rate taxpayer of 11.43 per cent.

Further details from Capital Life. (Tel: 01-248 9861).

**BANKS**  
**Why it pays to tell the customers a lot more**

Until a fortnight ago I never had a bank account. This is a dreadful confession from the Economics Editor of a distinguished newspaper, but it is not entirely true. I did have one as a student, but as it was always empty during the first week of the university term, I lived precariously in the cash economy. Since I married, straight from university, my husband and I had a joint account with an excellent small bank which, in a most chauvinist fashion, sent him all the documents.

So, for 16 years my personal experience of banking has been limited to writing cheques until forcibly requested by my husband to do so.

Because, however, of my chronic inability to remember that freelance earnings bring tax bills in their trail, it was finally decided clog Hogg that I should open my own special account. It was rather like that famous wartime poster you see in the nostalgia movies: "Is your journey really necessary?"

If I buy a toaster, the shop assistant not rude enough to ask me what I want to buy it for. The dry cleaners do not ask why I'm bringing in the children's blazers; they just take the business and even sometimes say, "thank you." However, I speculate that this question might be intended to elicit information that would enable NatWest instantly to offer me special services, so I filled it in as sensibly as I could.

A week later, a pay-it-book arrived. Just that. No friendly word-processed letter from my new bank manager, introducing himself and his bank's services: not so much as a pamphlet. With my mind running through those television commercials portraying the clerks as helpful and informative, I walked round to NatWest and asked if there was any booklet setting out a few basic facts - like when I might expect a cheque book, a card, or permission to use those machines in the wall.

"No," they said apologetically, "there isn't."

"Well, perhaps it was my fault. If I had had a punk hairdo, or said I was under 12, maybe I would have been showered with helpful information. But I cannot help feeling that I was a good potential customer for NatWest, along with lots of other underbanked adults. And that it might be worth the bank's while providing us with some basic information - even if it meant cutting down its spending on those dreadful pink piggies."

Sarah Hogg  
**Mediterranean cash by card**

NatWest customers who go to Spain for their summer holidays this year will be able to use the local bank cash-dispensers to withdraw money.

NatWest already issues a Uniform Eurocheque Card, plus cheques, which can be used in shops as well as banks. Customers who want to be able to use the card in Spanish cash-dispensers should ask their branch for another one on the new facility. You can use the card to withdraw up to £75 in Spanish currency at some 500 dispensers throughout Spain (directory provided).

However, you will have to remember your Personal Identification Number (PIN) - if you keep your number with your card and they both get stolen you are liable for what is withdrawn from your account.

NatWest charges £3.50 a year for its Uniform Eurocheque Card, with or without the cash-dispenser facility.

## End of the road for bridging loan tax loopholes

This year's Finance Bill - now going through the committee stage in the House of Commons - closes two tax loopholes in the property buying field.

The much publicized and often used stamp duty avoidance scheme which cost the Inland Revenue approximately £1m, has gone. Also fallen by the wayside is a defect in the Finance Act, 1974, governing the tax relief position of homeowners using bridging loans to finance two homes.

A bridging loan is usually a short-term loan used to cement short gaps in a conveyancing chain. For instance, you may have to complete the purchase of a new home a few days before the sale of your own home is

due to take place and need theory tax relief problems involved.

You can have tax relief only to purchase one main residence. Assuming you have not fully paid off the mortgage on your existing home then while you are on bridging finance you have two loans on two separate homes.

In any event the loan on your new home plus your existing home loan may, when added together, exceed the present tax relief ceiling of £30,000.

The Finance Act, 1974, comes to the rescue of homeowners in this position. It allows tax relief on each home, with each loan being subject to the present tax relief limit, that is £30,000. In effect,

you get two lots of tax relief, one for each home.

The dual relief is available for this. This can be extended if you have not already sold your first home by then, but you would have to convince the Revenue that you had made reasonable attempts to find a buyer and were still doing so.

Unfortunately, whoever wrote the relevant section of the Finance Act, 1974, got it wrong - and deservedly so because paragraph 6 of schedule 1 of the Act is a masterpiece of gobbledygook.

This was clearly not what the Revenue had intended and the Finance Bill rectifies the position with effect from April 6 by limiting both loans to £30,000 for tax relief purposes.

However, anyone falling within the ambit of the mistaken provisions in the last six years may be entitled to a tax repayment. If you think you qualify you should write to your local tax office as soon as possible, giving full details.

Meantime, the normal extension of tax relief for bridging loans lives on and you should bear in mind that the extended relief applies to any domestic property where tax relief is available.

This will encompass a loan on a home for your divorced or separated spouse and also for a dependent relative.

A dependent relative means any relative who is incapable of maintaining himself or herself

**MARTIN GRIFFITHS**

**FAMILY MONEY MARKET**

**Banks**

Current account - no interest paid.

Deposit accounts - Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 5 1/4 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. National Girobank 8 per cent, Lloyds extra interest 8 1/4 per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9 1/4 per cent. Fixed term deposits 22,500-225,000 - 1 month 8.0, 3 months 8.25, 6 months 8.5 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

**MONEY FUNDS**

Fund Flat APR Telephone

Amherst 8.75 9.17 01 836 6070

Barclays 8.65 9.0 01 826 8060

British Unit 8.00 8.5 01 588 2777

Mallinckrodt 7.75 7.98 01 499 6634

Oppenheimer Stanco 7.23 7.37 01 236 3867

S & P 7.90 8.2 0706 699265

Schroders 7.93 8.22 01 382 5226

"Over £10,000" 8.18 8.49 01 382 6226

Tullock & Riley 7.61 7.78 01 236 0952

T & R 7.7 8.45 01 236 0952

Yardley 7-day 8.25 8.54 0272 732241

Yardley 7-month 8.25 8.54 0272 732241

Yardley 7-day 8.25 8.54 0272 732241

Western Trust 7.4 8.63 01 623 3020

1 month 7.94 8.24 0752 261162

Henderson Money Market Cheque 8.65 9.0 01 638 5757

National Savings Bank

Ordinary accounts - interest 8 per cent on £2500 minimum on deposit for whole of 1984, otherwise 3 per cent.

Investment Account - 9 1/4% interest paid without deduction of tax, monthly notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £50,000.

National Savings Certificates 27th issue

Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.25 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond

Min. investment £2,000 - max. £50,000. Interest - 10 per cent variable at six weeks notice - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Retirement at 3 or 6 months notice - check penalties.

National Savings 2nd Index-linked certificates

Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues.

Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index.

Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1984 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 2.5 per cent supplement, from October 1984 to October 1985 and from October 1985 to October 1986.

Interest - 10 per cent per annum, plus 2.5 per cent bonus if held full five years. At maturity, Retirement Issue Certificates purchased in May 1979, £171.61 including bonus and supplement.

National Savings Deposit Bond

Minimum investment £500 max. £50,000, 10 per cent variable at six weeks notice. Credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice.

Guaranteed Income Bonds

Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity.

2 years Canterbury Life 8.5 per cent. 3 years Capital Life 8.75 per cent.

April RPI: 349.7 (The new RPI is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

Starting US dollar 7.15 per cent. £1.00 per cent. On Mark 4.27 per cent. 10.27 per cent. Swiss Franc 12.52 per cent.

£1.00 per cent. £1.00 per cent. £1.00 per cent. £1.00 per cent.

£1.00 per cent. £1.00 per cent. £1.00 per cent

## FAMILY MONEY

## COMMODITIES

# High risks and high commission make futures unsafe for private investor

Every week brings a new tale of investors who have lost money in commodity dealing. Two of the latest sufferers, Mr and Mrs Simms, approached the commodity dealer, LHW Futures, after seeing an advertisement and put the minimum amount - £700 - into lead futures. They made £38 profit after commission had been deducted (or which more later). A second lead contract was bought for them by LHW. Within two weeks they had lost their £700 when the price of lead fell.

"I think we knew the risks of commodity dealing," Mr Simms said. "But it was the rushed business of reinvesting that upset us. I think the salesman was thinking more about his commission than the suitability of the investment."

A second *Times* reader (who does not want to be identified) wrote to us about his investment with LHW. "Last year, I invested £12,000 with his firm of which they managed to lose every penny in six months. Is this a record?" he asked.

Our reader was contacted by LHW Futures about a year ago and persuaded to put some money into the commodity market. He sold some shares to raise the starting cash and put £1,000 into gold futures, with another £500 in something else.

In July he received a telephone call to say that gold was going up and that he must get in now. He rang his bank as suggested, and transferred a further £3,000 to LHW. Later in the month he invested another £6,000 after selling more shares, and by November, the lot had gone. More than £12,000 had disappeared down the drain in a mixture of gold, gasoil, platinum and palladium futures.

"I'm worth about half a million pounds altogether, so £12,000 doesn't mean very much to me. But it's still a large amount to lose so quickly and to have nothing to show for it. I didn't understand a thing about commodities. I still can't work out all the bits of paper which LHW sent me. While it was going on they kept phoning me, suggesting I put more money in so as to get back what I lose. I think they should have been

I'D WEAR AN EXTRA PAIR OF WINGS IF I WERE YOU...



more careful. After all, they are supposed to be the experts".

Throughout its short life, LHW Futures has been the subject of some controversy.

There have been criticisms of its selling methods, its advertising, and as we highlighted in Family Money a month ago, its high commissions which mean that however the client fares, LHW does very nicely, thank you. It should be emphasized that no one has alleged that LHW misled them with regards to the risks of commodity investment. But what does

LHW Futures itself say, in its defence?

Mr John Hughes, managing director, says LHW's high commission rates are justified because of the guaranteed stop-loss arrangements which protect an investor from losing more money than he has put in.

Under ordinary stop-loss arrangements, investors can fix a level at which to bail out of the contract so as to cut their losses. But they can never be certain of getting out at that price - markets can, after all, collapse overnight. LHW in these circumstances, would take

the loss itself and, according to Mr John Hughes, frequently does. He believes that the stop-loss guarantee is essential for the private investor gambling in commodity futures.

The trouble is that once you have paid the commission which, because of the gearing, can amount to a third, or even a half of your initial investment, a fairly modest fall in the price of whatever commodity futures you have purchased, can trigger the stop loss, the immediate closure of the contract and the loss of all your money.

Take, for example, the second lot of lead purchased by the Simms. The total deal was worth over £7,000, so their 10 per cent deposit, or stake money, as Mr Hughes prefers to call it, was £700. The commission on lead deals charged by LHW is 3 per cent, which works out at £224 - roughly a third of the Simms' deposit.

The 'balance' that is deposited, minus the LHW commission, was £476. This was basically the margin for error. It meant that if the price of lead fell by just over 6 per cent, not a

particularly dramatic move, the stop loss came into effect, and this is precisely what happened. In this way, it can be argued, the commission charged by LHW operates against the interests of its clients. There is no doubt that commodity futures are volatile. But even if the price just stays the same for the period of the contract, usually three months, the investor still loses, because of the high commission charges.

One justification for high commissions is that dealing in small amounts in commodity futures is relatively expensive because the market is not tailored to the small investor. The attraction of course, is in the gearing. You have only to commit 10, 15 or at the most 20 per cent of the value of the deal, which means that the rewards can be as dramatic in percentage terms as the risks.

LHW has been accused in the past of high pressure salesmanship. Mr Hughes says: "We don't have salesmen, we have 45 account executives. We have given up cold calling - new potential clients, and we don't act for them on a discretionary basis. We publish a newsletter with recommendations and we

do phone existing clients. What's wrong with that? For everyone who complains of being badgered someone else is worried about not being kept in touch with the market. There's two ways of looking at it."

To judge from the complaints, LHW deals for people who have absolutely no clue about the workings of commodity markets at all. Is this responsible? Mr Hughes said: "We have copious warnings all over our literature about the risks. But we can hardly ask each client to pass O level commodities before we take them on. As far as I am concerned, this business is not investment - it is sheer speculation. I don't want to know about any investors. I think that's honest, but when we placed an advert with 'for speculators only' over the top, the commodity markets told us it wasn't very tasteful. Frankly, I don't care if it's tasteful or not. I don't want to attract the wrong sort of people into this business. I think we make it quite clear that people should only put in money that they can really afford to lose."

Mr Hughes declined to say how many of his 5,000 clients make money over the year.

"The last three months we have been very right on coffee and tea and we have made a lot of money. The three months

before that people lost because we got the dollar wrong."

The real problem is that

commodities futures is completely the wrong investment for the small, or even the large, private investor.

The collapse, over the past few years, of several commodity brokers which catered for this mini market has been a thorn in the side of the commodity exchanges. To cap it all, the tax situation is very, very unfavourable for the investor.

Profits from commodity trading are at the moment, taxed as

income at rates of up to 60 per cent.

If you are lucky, losses may be offsettable against self-employed income. Other commodity investors find they can only offset their losses against commodity profits - if they have them. There is a strong lobby building up to persuade the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, to change the tax basis and make commodity profits subject to capital gains.

The argument behind this is that the market needs the change to attract more investors.

This should ensure you get your money from this month's round of GCE papers without a 30 per cent deduction.

This is, incidentally, the first time the Inland Revenue has granted such a concession. It

may well find itself extending the practice to other areas.

Currently, it is looking hard at the garment workers and

tupperware ladies with a view to bringing them into the PAYE net.

Many of the latter will find themselves in the same boat as the teachers.

Margaret Drummond

## PAYE Question teachers must ask taxman

Earlier this year, the Inland Revenue claimed it had pulled an extra £0.7 million from citizens into the PAYE net as a result of its clampdown on various groups of self-employed. Some 100,000 of its haul were teachers who earned extra money marking GCE and CSE examination papers.

But what the Inland Revenue did not say at the time was that many of the hapless 100,000 were married women who had given up full-time work to look after their children - marking examination papers was for many their sole source of income. At a rough rate of payment of £750 for 1,000 "O" level papers, their income was almost certainly less than the wives' earned income allowance of £2,000.

By being taxed through PAYE they would, in fact, be giving the Inland Revenue an interest-free loan - having money deducted that they would have to claim back because they had no tax liability at all.

But any teacher - and there are believed to be tens of thousands of them - who finds him or herself in this position should ask the examining board for which they are marking for a form declaring that their total earnings in the tax year will not be more than the personal allowance. The board is then permitted by the Inland Revenue to pay them gross, before deduction of tax.

The snag is that not all the examining boards are informing teachers of this option and the taxman certainly is not either. So you must ask. The form should ask you to confirm that you have no regular income from other employment and that your total income in the tax year is expected to be below the £2,000 lower personal allowance.

This should ensure you get your money from this month's round of GCE papers without a 30 per cent deduction.

This is, incidentally, the first time the Inland Revenue has granted such a concession. It may well find itself extending the practice to other areas. Currently, it is looking hard at the garment workers and tupperware ladies with a view to bringing them into the PAYE net.

Many of the latter will find themselves in the same boat as the teachers.

## SEEKING MONTHLY INCOME? IGNORING THIS INVESTMENT COULD COST YOU THOUSANDS.

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Now, there is a way for you to collect up to 10% a year from an investment in one of Britain's top unit trusts - TAX-FREE AND you can still expect capital growth.

To see how it works, let's turn the clock backwards. A £10,000 investment seven years ago would have produced TAX-FREE income of £7,000. Yet the same investment would have also generated £63,382. Trying to take the same £7,000 from an ordinary building society share account would have meant dipping into your capital, which would - by now - stand at just £8,000 - a sorry situation, we think you'll agree.

To find out more about this EXCLUSIVE investment, complete and return the coupon without delay.

N.B. It should be remembered that unit values can fall as well as rise. While past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future, the skills of the management group involved are clearly well above average.

To Read Stenhouse Gibbs, 10 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1W 0BR (no stamp required). Telephone: 01-730 2221. Please contact me with details of this investment.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No. \_\_\_\_\_

Present Income £ \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Rate %

Lump sum amount available for investment £ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount available for regular savings £ \_\_\_\_\_ per year/month

Licensed Dealer in Securities.  
Group established in 1904. 197 offices in 35 countries.  
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STENHOUSE  
GIBBS**



# NEW!

## MONTHLY INCOME SHARE ACCOUNT

# 7.75%

This account is available from May 1st and is designed for the larger investor or retired person who wishes to obtain a monthly income without tying up capital. Minimum initial investment and balance is £2000; additions whenever you wish provided amount is £250 or over. The Barnsley Society is offering the very attractive rate of 7.75% when you invest £2000 or more. Current rate subject to variation. On opening your account your first interest payment will be made at the end of the following month, thereafter monthly payments are 1/12th of the annual interest. At least one month's written notice to expire at the end of a calendar month, must be given. (Leaflet available on request.)

Ring or write for details to Dept. T3, Permanent Building, Regent Street, Barnsley S7 2EH. Tel: (0223) 291557 & 295601. Trustee Status: Member of BSA.

**BARNESLEY BUILDING SOCIETY**

### Aim to treble your investment in 10 years

**23.11%\***

**STILL  
TAX FREE!**

**TAX FREE UNIT PRICE GROWTH PER ANNUM**

(Equal to 33.01% gross and even more for higher rate taxpayers)

**TURN £1,550 INTO £5,638 IN 1994?**

(A 22.30% discount for lump sum investors)

**FOR HUSBAND AND WIFE - THE FAMILY BOND**

**NOW £16.92 MONTHLY OR £199.50 ANNUAL OR £1,550 LUMP SUM**

\*23.11% has been the average unit price growth each year of the original Family Assurance Fund since May 1976. If that growth continues at the same rate, £1,550 invested into a specialist contract linked to that fund (which is now closest to new investors) could be worth three times as much after 10 years. Its successor, the Capital Fund, which is also now a closed fund, has shown an even more impressive growth rate since its launch in April 1980 - unit price growth almost 30% p.a. The current fund, the Growth Fund, has done better still!

\*\*Based on a single premium unit price of £1,550.

†Based on a single premium unit price of £1,550.

‡Based on a single premium unit price of £1,550.

§Based on a single premium unit price of £1,550.

||Based on a single premium unit price of £1,550.

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\*\*Based on a single premium unit price of £1,550.

## ILEA not a separate local authority

**In re London Education Authority v Secretary of State for the Environment**  
Before Lord Justice Evelyn, Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson  
[Judgment delivered May 24]

The Inner London Education Authority was not a local authority within the meaning of Part III of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 and was therefore not accountable to the Secretary of State for the Environment separately from the Greater London Council in respect of maintenance and other work carried out by its own direct labour organization.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by ILEA from an order of Mr Justice Woolf on March 16, 1983, who dismissed the summons for the determination of the questions.

(1) Whether the GLC acting by means of the special committee constituted under section 30 of the London Government Act 1963, and known as ILEA, was a local authority for the purposes of Part III of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 which (a) was to be treated as a separate authority from the GLC when the council was acting otherwise than by means of the special committee and (b) had created and/or was entitled to create a direct labour organization so created.

Mr J. R. Macdonald, QC and Mr Colin Braham for ILEA; Mr Simon

D. Brown for the Department of the Environment and Mr Justice Evelyn.

**LORD JUSTICE EVELYN** said that Part III of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 was headed "Direct Labour Organizations". Part III contained various references to "local authority" and imposed upon a local authority which undertook maintenance and structural work certain duties in respect of accounts in relation to such work and other duties of a financial nature.

It also provided that the local authority should submit accounts to the secretary of state and the secretary of state was given certain powers in relation to the expenses of the local authority over the operation of their direct labour organization. The measure of control was not relevant for present purposes.

It had been submitted that ILEA was a local authority for the purposes of Part III of the 1980 Act. Since 1965 ILEA had operated a direct labour organization and had operated that organization independently of the GLC. The reason for that was that it did not want its accounts to be examined as a whole with those of the direct labour organization operated by the GLC.

However, in Part III of the 1980 Act there was an interpretation section 20, and that section 20 ("local authority" means - in relation to England and Wales, a county council, the Greater London Council, a district council, a London borough council or the Common Council of the City of London and the Council of the Isles of Scilly).

There was no mention there of ILEA and that would prima facie at least indicate that ILEA was not a local authority within Part III. That situation was strengthened by the fact that ILEA was specifically named in Part III.

His Lordship could not accept that argument. It seemed to him that in Inner London there was only one education authority and that was the one contemplated by Section 30(1) of the 1963 Act.

Solicitors: Mr R. A. Lanham:

amended by section 67 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982) provides:

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act and to section 40 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, a court or before which a person is convicted of an offence, instead of or in addition to dealing with him in any other way, may, on application or otherwise, make an order in this Act referred to as "a compensation order" requiring him to pay compensation for any personal injury, loss or damage resulting from that offence or any other offence which is taken into consideration by the court in determining sentence.

It was submitted on behalf of the appellant that section 35 provided a summary procedure enabling compensation in cases where the liability of the offender was clear, without having to suffer the delay and expense of civil proceedings. A compensation order was, however, no more than a means of enforcing a liability which already existed independently of the order.

Mr Adrian Palmer, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals for the appellant: Mr Anthony McNeile for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE,

reading the reserved judgment of the court, said that the grounds upon which the compensation order was imposed were straightforward.

The understatement of the company's sales, constituting the offence to which the appellant pleaded guilty, misled the Customs and Excise into accepting that the VAT due was less than it really was.

By the time the error was appreciated, the company had become defunct and it was too late to recover the balance. The commissioners had therefore suffered loss in the amount of the underpayment, and this loss resulted from the offences.

It was submitted on behalf of the appellant that section 35 provided a summary procedure enabling compensation in cases where the liability of the offender was clear, without having regard to any representations that are made by or on behalf of the accused or the prosecutor...

Mr Adrian Palmer, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals for the appellant: Mr Anthony McNeile for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE,

were not such as to give the victim a civil right to claim for the personal injury, loss or damage in question. The criminal court had no jurisdiction to make an award.

The party liable for the balance of the tax was the company, as a director, and in the absence of any facts to support the application itself, was under no liability for the loss sustained by the Customs and Excise. Accordingly, it was submitted that the compensation order could not stand.

If the words of the statute could be taken at their face value there was no room for doubt. The loss, and right of the Customs and Excise to be compensated for it, fell squarely within the section.

Their Lordships found no compelling reason why the statute should be read otherwise than in accordance with its natural meaning. That being so, the conditions for the exercise of the discretion were all satisfied in the present case, and there was no ground for saying that the discretion was wrongly exercised.

Mr Rich's contention was that any building used primarily for the selling of goods by retail was a shop.

If the word "right" in a large sense used wholly for the selling of goods by retail could begin any number of

cases, the facts

Mr R. A. Lanham:

that the facts

Mr R. A. Lanham:





Three  
to fit  
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warm

## Incisive ready to make his mark

**By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)**  
Incisive is my selection to win the valuable Cecil Prail Handicap Stakes at Haydock Park today. There are grounds for believing that the Jockey Club's panel of handicappers will be setting more stringent rules in the future. At the time today's handicap was compiled they had only his narrow win at Prestatyn and his close second at Beverley to go on.

Since then Incisive has shown improved form at York to finish third behind Barry Sheen and Rixi over a distance that could easily have been just a shade too far.

By taking a line through those two it is possible to argue that Incisive may have as much as 7lb in hand over Shamireekh now and 5lb with Test of Time.

Barry Sheen was beaten a neck by Test of Time at Newmarket while Rixi was four lengths behind Shamireekh at Sandown and unless I have done my sums wrong, Incisive must have a good chance of beating them at today's weights, as long as he runs as well as he did at York.

On the other hand the handicapper ought to have got to grips with Lester Piggott's mount, Dorset Venture, by now because he had won three races in a row before this handicap was compiled. Sarah and Sam M, who finished first and fourth in a similar race at Newmarket on 2,000 Guineas day, split by a length and a half, have been assessed accordingly so there should be nothing between them.

Don Martino, upset those who thought that the Chester winner, Bold Indian, was bound to win again at York even with his penalty. As a result of that triumph Don Martino now has a 10lb penalty and I doubt him being quite good enough to a shrug that off.

No matter how Dorset Venture fares, Piggott should continue to keep his huge band of followers content because he appears to have a good chance of landing the spoils of Defecting Dancer in the Sandy Lane Stakes at Haydock today.

Piggott also has a good chance of winning the Skelmersdale Maiden Stakes on Standing Order, who ran so well in his first race at Newmarket, but behind the same horse in the Abbernon Stakes at Newmarket will also be tough opponents.

With the future in mind it will be interesting to see how Al Mamoo fared. He looked good when he won his first two races last season, but after bad runs in the Gimcrack Stakes and the Middle Park Stakes one had to question his temperament.

Piggott has a good chance of winning the Skelmersdale Maiden Stakes on Standing Order, who ran so well in his first race at Newmarket, but here I prefer Reville, who did likewise. Arguably Reville's fourth behind Solo Native will be the better performance to light of more recent events.

Odd Man Out should be another winner for Reville's season Forzando has shown



Defecting Dancer, the likely favourite for the Sandy Lane Stakes at Haydock Park today

what a difference a furlong can make. He, too, found seven furlongs too far in the Free Handicap but he was back to his best over six furlongs afterwards.

Keep Tapping, who finished third behind Gabitat in the Duke of York Stakes and El Gazebo who finished just behind the same horse in the Abbernon Stakes at Newmarket will also be tough opponents.

With the future in mind it will

be interesting to see how Al Mamoo fared. He looked good when he won his first two races last season, but after bad runs in the Gimcrack Stakes and the Middle Park Stakes one had to question his temperament.

Piggott has a good chance of getting his revenge. Joy Ride (2.0) and Camisite (2.0), who has won three times at Doocaster already, look like being good rides for Edward Hide there. Also at Doocaster I expect Sergeant Drummer (nap) to be the Rife Butts Stakes, even though Electrical Wind and Braka are against him.

Finally Silent Sun (2.45), who

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**BIRTHS**  
BENEDICT MARSHALL DEATHS  
IN MEMORIAM

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**TOGETHER, WE CAN BEAT CANCER**

We're Britain's largest supporters of cancer research and with one of the most effective ways to ensure your legacy, covenant, donation or gift in memory will help.

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN  
TICKETS, TMW 26/5/84, £1.50.  
Postage and handling 25p.

POSTAGE AND PAYMENT  
MARRIAGES  
WEDDINGS, etc., on Court and  
Marriage Register, £1.50.  
Deaths £1.25.

Divorces and Social Pensions  
announcements and may be accepted by telephone.

Most advertisements can be accepted by  
post. Please send copy 2 days prior to publication £0.50.  
Should you wish to send an  
advertisement, daytime phone

"... Then said Jesus unto them, I will  
show you what is to be done. Let us go  
unto the village to see what we may do  
unto him that is to die, for to do  
such things is to us." John 11:39.

**BIRTHS**

ABBEY, 11th April, to Clare &  
Richard J. and Karen Matthew.

DE MARE - On May 22, to Victoria  
and Christopher, son of Sir Peter  
and Lady Alexandra, a sister for Alice

DENTON - On May 23, in Dumfries, to  
Morris (Ode John) Denton and  
Doris, a son, Christopher. A brother, a  
son of Henry.

HARRIS, on May 23, to Dennis and  
Doreen (John) Harris, a son, Alan  
and a daughter, Michelle Carol.

**BIRTHDAYS**

JOHNSON, Happy Birthday Janet  
for 24th May. Best wishes from  
John and Pauline. Ans. Post Box 5477

MARSHALL - On May 24, to Michael  
and Elizabeth Marshall, a son, Alexander

MCINTOSH - On May 25 in Dumfries, to  
Morris (Ode John) McIntosh and  
Doris, a son, Christopher. A brother, a  
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MCARTHY - On May 26th at May Day  
Hospital, London, to Michael and  
Doris, a daughter, Michelle Carol.

**MARRIAGES**

BRACE - On May 26, to Michael and  
Sarah, son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey

CHAMBERS - On May 26, to Michael and  
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**DEATHS**

ANSELEY - On May 24, Colonel John  
Cavendish, Royal Artillery and General Staff,  
Died at his home, 100 Grosvenor Gardens,  
London SW1, beloved father and grandfather.

BURTON, on May 24, in Tenterden,  
Kent, a son of Sir John and Lady Burton.

BURLEIGH, DIANA, on May 16, peacefully  
while on holiday in Tenerife, Spain,  
in the care of her doctor, Dr. John C. Deer,

friend of Ruth Windfuhr.

BURTON, on May 25, 1984, suddenly  
and very unfortunately after five operations,  
at Nottingham City Hospital, aged 85.  
Mabel, wife of Sir John and Lady Burton,  
4th Baronet of St. Anne's Manor,  
Burton-on-Trent, and a daughter of  
Sir Edward and Son of General  
Director, Ltd., 3-15 Somerside, Edgbaston,  
Birmingham, a son of Sir Edward.

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